Daily Report

Latin America

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Group of Three Appeals for Peace in El Salvador

PA2411172390 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] In Mexico City, the foreign ministers of the Group of Three—formed by Colombia, Mexico, and Venezuela—voiced their concern over the escalation of violence in El Salvador that began on 20 November. They made an appeal for an immediate end to hostilities.

The foreign ministers urged the belligerent parties to return to the path of negotiations supported by the international community, particulary UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, who is supported by the governments of Colombia, Mexico, and Venezuela.

Finally, the foreign ministers of Colombia, Luis Fernando Jaramillo; Mexico, Fernando Solana; and Venezuela, Reinaldo Figueredo, reiterated their belief that the conflicting parties will fully assume their responsibility to attain peace in El Salvador.

Since yesterday, the foreign ministers of the Group of Three have been meeting in Mexico City to analyze cooperation in the energy, commercial, communication, transportation, financial, cultural, tourist, and judicial sectors.

Issues Communique

PA2511151990 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0151 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Mexico City, 23 Nov (NOTIMEX)—The foreign ministers of Mexico, Colombia, and Venezuela, meeting in Mexico City, have called on the international community to participate in Latin America's reconstruction—based on political and economic agreements and the respect for sovereignty and self-determination. At a meeting held yesterday at the Mexican Foreign Secretariat, the three foreign ministers of the Group of Three (G-3) worked for a solution to the region's serious economic and social problems within the framework of the UN guidelines for cooperation.

In a communique issued today, the G-3 foreign ministers stated that "the joint effort undertaken by the Central American countries deserves the full support of the international community."

Fernando Solana of Mexico, Luis Fernando Jaramillo of Colombia, and Reinaldo Figueredo of Venezuela stressed that G-3 needs to coordinate its actions to promote further cooperation and economic integration, as well as to keep the commitments made by their presidents in the following fields: Energy, commerce, industry, finance, transportation, culture, and tourism. They will also continue the process of consultation and political consensus on the international situation. In particular, they will participate in solving the problems of Central America and the Caribbean.

In their final document, the foreign ministers pointed to the need to participate in the Central American Integration Bank to strengthen it.

The ministers announced that concrete progress in the exchange of information on specific short, medium, and long-term projects, and the requirements for the participation of the private sector—particularly in the areas of coal, gas, and hydroelectric plants and their interconnection—should be presented during the second G-3 meeing to be held in January.

They agreed that comprehensive agreements should be signed on commerce; investment; access to credit markets; restrictive areas, particularly anti-dumping areas; and coordinated participation in the Uruguay meetings.

The three foreign ministers agreed on the need to remove all obstacles that are hindering the transportation sector as a necessary measure to foster foreign trade. They also pointed out the importance of adequately financing foreign trade.

Regarding telecommunications, they favored the creation of high- level groups to handle cooperation on satellites, especially [words indistinct].

They agreed to improve air transportation by updating bilateral agreements in the aeronautics industry that deal with the training of personnel and the participation of the private sector.

Regarding maritime transport, they agreed on the need to remove the obstacles that hamper foreign trade development. They also agreed to promote the participation of the private sector and carry out technical and financial assistance programs to improve the naval industry.

Prior to the meeting of the G-3 presidents in January, high-level groups of experts on air and maritime affairs will meet to submit their recommendations.

The ministers also reported on the creation of a high-level group of tourism experts who will meet in Cartagena, Colombia in February to exchange their experiences and promote mutual interest projects between the public and private sectors of the three nations.

Finally, they agreed to hold bilateral or trilateral consultation meetings to combat drug trafficking; these meetings will be incorporated into the G-3 presidents' agenda.

Cuba

More on Interview With Culture Minister Hart

Part Two: Role of Religion

PA2411035590 Havana International Service in Spanish 0116 GMT 9 Nov 90

[Second part an "exclusive" interview with Culture Minister Armando Hart Davalos by Radio Havana reporter Pedro Martinez Pirez at the Ministry of Culture; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Martinez Pirez] During the broad debate currently being held in Cuba regarding the the Fourth Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC], I have seen no doubts cast on socialism, or even the existence of a single party. Instead, countless proposals—many with popular support—have been made to improve the Cuban society, and to end some of the discrimination that still exists. One of the subjects, for instance, is the admission of believers into the PCC. Do you favor or oppose this admission?

[Hart] I favor the admission of any believer who accepts the revolution's program and works effectively for it, regardless of their philosophy or relationship with God. I have explained this very clearly. It was the ban on the admission of believers and their relationship with the Cuban Church that resulted in a very complex situation early in the revolution. This was the first obstacle. In addition, the U.S. imperialism started to use the beliefs of certain more primitive religions to convert people and benefit from a practical need of the moment. This conflict was not portrayed as a matter of principle, even in the history of an international movement like ours, and it is not presented as a matter of principle, even by Lenin. The problem is highly complex.

It has been debated whether or not Marx said that religion is the opium of the people. This phrase has also been used here. It has been said that religion is the opium of people under certain and specific historical circumstances, and it has also been said that religion is not the opium of people, but rather a factor of liberation under certain other historical settings. Marxist thought, however, must be studied in the context of historical principles. Marx did not announce absolute, immutable or eternal truths, in fact, he rejected them. In the Europe of his time, there were problems with religion and a reactionary church hierarchy. Religion was indeed opium at that time. In Latin America, however, a different process, liberation theology, is underway. There is the work being done by large numbers of Catholics and Christians in Latin America. I have observed it personally. Maybe I can explain my personal experience.

I became aware of popular Catholicism and Christianity—well, it was not exactly new to me because I had the theoretical knowledge and, in addition, the basic and primitive Christian background was very strong—during the Nicaraguan and Salvadoran revolutions. This is when I really learned about liberation theology. In Cuba, I never had an encounter with militant rank and file Catholics, firm advocates of the church. I never met them here. The Cuban masses believed in God, but, as it was said in Cuba at the time, people believed in God in their own way. The Cuban Catholics were a part of the church hierarchy. I want to explain this clearly in order to avoid the idea that throughout Cuba's history the church hierarchy always played a negative role. For instance, the great personalities of the independence were not intolerant of Catholicism. Instead they were atheists, free thinkers, and did not belong to the church, although some of them did in the beginning. Father Varela disagreed with the church hierarchy and left the church. Luis Caballero, one of the greatest Cuban leaders, suffered much. He was a patriot and aspired to Cuba's independence but suffered tremendously because his church opposed it.

I have told some clergymen that the guidance of, attention to, and orientation of culture and the country's education were not lost by the church in 1961, after we expelled Batista. The church lost these privileges in 1888 when it opposed independence. The church's hierarchy always played this kind of role, as it did during the time of Fulgencio Batista. We remember that a few days after a young Cuban Catholic, (?Anselmo) Chavarria, who was a student leader, died in combat on 13 March 1957, the church's hierarchy visited and was honored by Batista. These events lead us to the beginning of the revolution, however, the church's hierarchy failed to understand its role and did not join the process. Nonetheless, we never closed churches in Cuba. It is not by crushing religion or closing down churches that people are persuaded to believe revolutionary ideas. Problems of conscience are deep and are not solved by crushing beliefs. Such problems can be settled through conviction and analysis. Solutions should not be forced. The country's most consistent Catholics, the purest and most Christian-like Catholics now live in Cuba. I have met men with the intellectual stature of Tilcio Didier [not further identified]. I have met great writers and poets who are Catholics and have remained loyal to the revolution. In addition, there are others, people who are not Catholics, who belong to other religions. What Marx and Lenin have proposed regarding this problem, even in the bitterest diatribes against religion, is for believers to accept the programs and participate actively in the revolution. Once this is done, the people involved can join the party because our party is not philosophical, but political, revolutionary, and anti- imperialist. I wonder if a man like Camilo Torres [deceased, former leader of the Colombian Army of National Liberation] would have been denied admission if he had requested it?

Part Three: Democratic Evolution

PA2411041590 Havana International Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 10 Nov 90

[Third part of an "exclusive" interview with Culture Minister Armando Hart Davalos by Pedro Martinez Pirez at the Ministry of Culture; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Hart] There have been three significant events that have caused ruptures during the past few years and which have had repercussions on the Cuban cultural policy. It is true that we had a plan, but we must take into consideration three important events in Cuba.

The first one resulted from criticism of the economic plan. That caused a rupture. People began thinking differently, to [words indistinct]. That was the first rupture.

The second one is related to the sad processes in former socialist countries where principles, schemes, and ideas that were considered valid for 40 or 50 years suddenly fell from grace. Those societies returned to their former ways and to very serious situations. That also had repercussions [words indistinct] perestroyka.

There was another interesting factor affecting our culture. In the 80's a new generation, born after the revolution or in the years of the beginning of the revolution, began to exert cultural, and even political influence. That generation knew nothing about the old society.

I have discussed this cultural policy with people. I will give you an example of what has happened since the 80's.

I had been discussing the creation and design of our policies with intellectuals, and then one day I attended a meeting, and I was talking with a group of comrades about an issue on which we more or less agreed, when suddenly five, six, or 10 people joined in the discussion. This happens [words indistinct] on a concept, on an idea that we had already established and discussed, when all of a sudden new people, people from the new generation suddenly appeared. These are people who—when the Culture Ministry's efforts began—were approximately 15 or 17 years old. They joined the discussion and we spoke with them. This is logical because it is a part of our development and progress. It is a part of this country's experience; this is a democratic country.

I believe that at a certain point there was democracy in Cuba, but it was different. I believe that at a certain point there were democratic exaggerations, certain demagogic factors, and a certain amount of demagoguery on some people's part. [Words indistinct] some demagoguery and some democratic agreements. I believe that if we [words indistinct] years, it is not our fault; it is the result of pure democratization. This may be due to the need to strengthen our institutional mechanisms so that we can conduct our discussions within democratic institutions, in a democratic atmosphere where they should be discussed.

We have institutions such as the National Assembly, we have the labor congresses, the women's congresses, etcetera. We must perfect the Cuban nation's institutional mechanisms, but we must perfect them so that they will be increasingly consistent with the historic lines that this revolution has followed.

[Martinez Pirez] It is true then that certain artists and intellectuals in Cuba have recently adopted a skeptical and hypercritical attitude toward the revolution's achievements?

[Hart] In my opinion, the trend toward hypercriticism is not among the artists or intellectuals, but among the general public. The Cuban people are hypercritical. The Cuban people can [word indistinct] hypercriticism, not to favor the counterrevolution but very often within the revolution. Cubans are hypercritical about the revolution and there has been [words indistinct]; this has happened. Democracy functions on hypercriticism.

We are facing a very serious problem, however. What is our problem? We are experiencing a very serious economic problem. We had an economic foundation based on relations that no longer exist with the socialist system. This is one of the leading sources of pressure for Cuba and, of course, it could create uncertainty. I am not such an idealist to believe that no one will feel uncertainty. [Words indistinct] strengthen confidence in the revolution.

I will cite an example of a true plebiscite that was held in Cuba. In Cuba we needed a plebiscite to approve the Constitution. [Words indistinct] to approve the Republic's Constitution. I can give you another example of a plebiscite. On 7 December 1989 we buried our Angolan martyrs. It was a harsh war. Many Cubans spent 14 years over there; they were killed, and when the Angolan war was over and we brought our martyrs home, we held a gigantic funeral throughout the country.

There was a huge burial at every cemetery or in every municipality in the country where there was a dead comrade. It was a painful (?event) because it involved people's lives, the lives of Cuban family members. It was a decisive test, and with what feeling and grief those masses and relatives buried their dead.

In my opinion this was an enormous plebiscite because it involved matters as dramatic as relatives' lives and the Angolan war, despite the large-scale campaigns that were carried out concerning Cuba's participation in the Angolan war. The campaigns [words indistinct].

The impressive masses took relatives to bury their sons, fathers, brothers, girlfriends, or wives. This was a huge plebiscite, it was the embodiment of the Cuban people's spirit [words indistinct] and skepticism. Yes, there may be skeptical and worried. I, also, am worried. You are worried, and more than worried you are busy with the worldwide situations which we must confront.

We are experiencing a crucial moment in Cuban history, but Cuba is not the only country with problems. You must be careful about that. There are countries that are facing situations that are more dramatic than ours. This is not a Cuban problem, but an American and worldwide problem. What country can do what we are doing? We are headed toward what we have described as a special period in peacetime. What country can do that? Consider the situation in Peru, think of what happened

during the Brazilian elections; what of the strikes and other situations in Argentina; and the attacks on the markets in Caracas?

There are tremendous symptoms in America, not only in Cuba. Cuba is not the only one. We have a difficult [words indistinct], but we have a united people to confront it. There may be some worried skeptics; there must be. However, we should all be busy and worried (?because we must confront) a complex, difficult situation. We will do so alongside the Cuban people.

Part Four: Lessons of History

PA2411043590 Havana International Service in Spanish 0112 GMT 13 Nov 90

[Fourth and "final" part of an "exclusive" interview with Culture Minister Armando Hart Davalos by Pedro Martinez Pirez at the Ministry of Culture; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Martinez Pirez] A short time ago you inaugurated an Indian museum in Holguin that contained 60 skeletons of the Indians who lived in the region somewhere around the time when Christopher Columbus arrived in Cuba about 500 years ago. You established a difference between the geographic feat—which you defined as finding the world's road—and the subsequent process of conquest, which was full of looting and the extermination of cultures. How can we focus on the 500th anniversary, or how will Cuba focus on it?

[Hart] In practice, these two events were related. Here the idea of discovering new worlds came up . Of course, the explorers were not really discovering anything because these lands had already been discovered by the Indians. The explorers came with the idea of proving that the earth was round. At that time, they thought the earth was flat, but the great stream of ideas that resulted changed old and ancient concepts about the earth. I do not believe that there has been a real understanding of the great discoveries of Christopher Columbus and those who came after him. It was not the discovery of a continent. It was the discovery of what I have called the (?roads) of the world. These discoveries lead to the travels of Ferdinand Magellan and to the realization that the earth was round. It allowed the world to be drawn as it actually is. I believe that represents a great achievement.

This achievement, however,—I believe since its early beginning—was marred by the great crimes that were committed during the conquest. The Europeans used the discoveries to open up trade and the world, but the Spanish took advantage of the situation and began to loot, steal, and conquer. The Spanish used more primitive methods than those of the rising capitalists. The Spanish used prehistoric methods of conquest. The Spanish stole the gold, and as I told you before, all the gold went to Spain. All the benefits went to Spain, and the result was a repressed society because conflicts were not allowed to develop. It took Spain five centuries to achieve this objective. It has not been until the last 40 or 50 years that Spain has been able to achieve a democratic, bourgeois movement.

Another consequence of the conquest was the elimination of the Indian populations. We can never accept this fact as moral, fair or anything else. That action deserves our strongest rejection. Once the Indians were eliminated from many countries, they began to bring black slaves from Africa. Slavery was introduced and it became another atrocity. Slavery was another consequence of the conquest. So, we have the elimination of the Indian population and culture and African slavery.

We cannot praise the beautiful side of the feat without rejecting the conquest. I told you this has practical implications because there are modern conquistadors. In the modern world, the great discoveries, the great progress made by science led the most reactionary people to take hold of this progress and promote the arms race. Imperialism is responsible for the terror in the world. Today the imperialists want to conquer and crush us with their technological development and domination in research. I do not know if the world has enough moral awareness to realize the magnitude of this phenomenon. We have to denounce modern conquistadors. We are willing to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the discovery of the roads of the world with dignity, but we must reject the conquest and learn not to allow the modern conquistadors to do what their predecessors did 500 years ago. Doing these things is the way to celebrate the anniversary.

Indian towns and populations still exist and they still remember how their culture was crushed. The conquistadors built churches over the Indians' temples, but the temples were just as sacred as the churches.

PCC Ideologist Aldana on Congress Preparations

PA2511024190 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2019 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Report by Jose Buendia]

[Text] Havana, 22 Nov (NOTIMEX)—Carlos Aldana, the ideologist for the Communist Party of Cuba [PPC], said today that there is consensus in the Cuban population regarding socialism, the single-party system, and President Fidel Castro's prestige.

These preliminary conclusions have been expressed during broad discussions and debates held in preparation for the PCC's Fourth Congress. Only an exceptional economic situation "could keep us from crystallizing many ideas and making many changes in our institutions," Aldana told NOTIMEX.

Aldana, a member of the PCC Central Committee, said that "an exceptional economic situation would be matched by an exceptional political situation," despite the projected changes being prepared for discussion during the congress of the Cuban Communists.

Aldana, regarded as the third most important person in the Cuban leadership, pointed out: "We have reason to believe that we will be able to reorient our relations with the Soviet Union as the result of the new situation and changes" in Cuba's traditional ally.

Aldana added: "And this is not historic optimism. The reorganization of our economic relations with the Soviet Union will make it possible for us to receive in 1991 the basic supplies necessary to maintain our standard of living and the most important development programs."

Otherwise, should the country enter into a special period, "everything would have to be simplified and [words indistinct]," such as have been voiced during the meetings to prepare the coming congress."

The party leader said that in the assemblies to prepare the agenda for the coming congress there have been ample debates and discussions on the need to make changes in and reform the country's main institutions.

Aldana pointed out that he personally foresees great changes in the People's Power (Parliament), but that the material basis for the institutional reforms "is the reorganization of economic relations with the Soviet Union."

He also said that nearly 80,000 People's Assemblies have been held in the past eight months to sound out the opinions of the entire population on the PCC Congress to be held during the first half of 1991.

While Aldana admitted that during the debates there have been "some negative opinions expressed against the system," he regarded these as "isolated cases."

He also pointed out that, according to public opinion, "the expectations that the changes in Eastern Europe raised in the people were diluted this year as the result of the events and realities there, such as unemployment."

Labor Force Relocation Guidelines Issued

FL2411193590 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] The State Committee for Labor and Social Security has issued Resolution 17-90 which refers to the relocation of workers caused by the current deficit of fuel or other technical-material supplies. The document published today by the newspaper GRANMA, says the workers will be relocated to other occupations or posts within the same work center, to other taks in the same territory, or to construction or agricultural activities.

The relocated worker will maintain his association with his work center of origin and can either receive 100 percent of his fixed salary without any additional payment, or can receive the salary established for the occupation to which he is assigned.

The worker who cannot be relocated because of lack of a job placement in spite of the fact that he has expressed his willingness to carry out any useful job, will receive 100 percent of his fixed salary on the first month. Sixty percent of his salary will be guaranteed as long as this situation persists. In this case, he will maintain his work association with the center of origin.

People who because of illness, physical disabilities, problems with the care of their young children, or other well-justified reasons, cannot be relocated in agricultural or construction activities, will receive 100 percent of their fixed salary during the first month and 60 percent as long as the situation persists.

Those who are physically and mentally fit to perform a job and do not accept the relocation offers will receive 100 percent of their fixed salary on a one-time-basis. They will not receive any other guaranteed salary as long as this situation persists.

Fidel Castro Hosts UNICEF Delegation

FL2411185090 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro has received Dr. Jorge Jara, UNICEF representative for Mexico and Cuba, and his companions Enedelsy Escobar and Francisco Rojas. Fidel signed, on behalf of Cuba, the international declaration for survival, protection, and development of children and the action plan to carry it out which were approved at the international summit on chilren held at the United Nations last September.

The commander in chief is the first head of state to sign these documents after they were signed by the 71 present at the meeting. Views were exchanged with the UNICEF representatives about the social, health, and education programs in our country, especially the matters related to children.

* Journalist Describes Living Conditions

91p40043A Hamburg DIE ZEIT in German 26 Oct 90 pp 49-50

[Article by Matthias Reiche]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] The agony is most evident in the capital: overflowing gargbage cans; lines of houses which would be immune to any attempt to revive them; entire neighborhoods of tumbledown shacks made of wood and corrugated iron, in constant danger of being swept away by the next rain; toilets that stink to high heaven. More and more Cubans are moving from the interior of the country to Havana in the hope of finding a good paying job and fuller shelves in the markets. But both are difficult to find. Cuba has not become the utopia that Fidel Castro hoped to create. He is simply lying when he says only three percent of Havana's population lives under unsanitary conditions.

People live and raise children even in windowless garages. Daily life is becoming unbearable due to the constant shortage of water. Barrels, pails and every

possible container are used for storing water. This works if the pipes carry water every other day, as occurs in the capital; however, it becomes a foul-smelling affair in 32-degree weather if water is supplied only every five to eight days, as occurs in the countryside.

Nearly all of the children at the "Rancho Luna", a small motel 16 km from Cienfuegos, fell ill around 20 August. Some were so ill they had to be rushed to the hospital. The reason was that during these months practically all who vacation there are Cuban, so the cleanliness of the water is not so important. Beginning in October, however, when the motel is once again rented to dollar-paying tourists, such crises do not occur. During that time, the "Rancho Luna" is off limits to Castro's subjects, as is every hotel, restaurant or store in which the national currency, the peso, is not accepted.

A secret of the men standing at the entrances is their instinctive inner sense for discerning which of their countrymen would be prepared to violate this taboo. Even the possession of hard currency is punishable for the common man. Whether it be the employee at the Hemingway marina who has obtained a few dollars through small-scale business with foreigners at the luxury center, or the prostitutes who work on Avenida 5, or the people who exchange eight pesos for a dollar on the blackmarket: All have to arrange for someone to buy for them. "A person has to survive," says Ricardo, a former Moscow student now unemployed because he, along with four companions, wrote a letter which was critical of the island's rulers.

Ricardo sells marijuana which he grows himself at ten pesos for a regular-sized cigarrette and five for a small one. The profits are exchanged for dollars. "We used to live with the shortages, now the shortages define our lives." Ricardo tugs at an imaginary beard. "He has everything from soap to three Mercedes—all from world imperialism, and he wants to tell us what's good for Cuba. By that he means what's good for himself," says Ricardo.

For most Cubans, life has become a race against poverty. Tropical fruits have the value of a rare commodity in a country where three harvests a year would be possible. Soap, toilet paper, and laundry detergent are only occasionally obtainable. Only children eight years of age or younger receive coupons for the purchase of meat; others receive half a chicken every two weeks. When meat is freely available, people stand in line for ten hours or more. Keep your mouth shut and participate in voluntary labor—that is the only possible way to obtain a new refrigerator, a washing machine or a fan made in China. The labor union keeps track of each individual's merits and then decides. Cars are allotted according to the same principal, but the waiting period is ten years. With an average monthly income of 220 pesos (a doctor receives 350), the 5000 pesos cannot be saved much sooner than that.

In the "dolartiendas" everything is available—for foreigners and for Cubans, who make use of their official bonuses. The 63-year-old truck driver, Candido, who wanted to see what he—as a party member—could not believe, cried when we were once again outside. Sadness without a trace of rebellion. Like many comrades, he is neither socialist nor communist; he is a "Fidelista," a follower of Castro. And only Castro himself knows what ideology he adheres to. Before the revolution, Candido would never have gotten his relatively good apartment. He pays 12 pesos per month until he has paid for the three room apartment valued at 2600 pesos; then it will be his. This he will defend, even with weapons. Both of his sons study, which Candido (who learned to read and write at the age of 30) feels is also a gift from Castro. And this nightmare of a takeover of the island by the United States is not so farfetched; after all, Cuban exiles in Miami are practicing diligently for that day.

When Candido's eldest son muses about whether there could be an alternative when Cuba is no longer under the control of Castro brothers, the father considers this a sacrilege. Fidelistas share an almost religious belief in Fidel's infallability. [passage omitted]

"This low point is not temporary: $24 billion in debts to the Soviet Union and $8 billion in debts to Western countries is a heavy burden on our economy," says the director of the National Bank. "Therefore, the only thing left is to appeal to the Paris Club where discussions are currently underway." [passage omitted]

Fidel Castro himself has not been able to rid the people of racial prejudices. There is a distinction made between blacks, mulattos, "javaos" (fair-skinned persons with negro features) and whites. [passage omitted]

Prejudices are fueled by the fact that most of the prisoners in the Combinado del Este prison are blacks; the causes of this are primarily social. Many of the 35 percent of Cubans who are nonwhite live on the verge of poverty in the worst sections of the city. No one mentions this, or when the topic arises people try to hide it using false or manipulated statistics.

At the same time, a black elite has also developed under the regime. Those who come from the fringes of society and have received an opportunity, use it with an almost inconsiderate zeal. It is no accident that black doctors have made a considerable contribution to Cuba's success in the field of medicine. And the fact that the security forces—especially the elite forces—are primarily recruited from among nonwhites is a calculated move by far-thinking, old revolutionaries. The police with their powerful motorcycles, uniformly outfitted in blue cotton uniforms, reflector sunglasses and with pistols at their sides are a feared symbol of the relentless concern of the "maximo lider" for the welfare of his ten million countrymen.

With the help of the police, the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution, and the ubiquitous state security, the regime has thrown a net over the entire island. Those who are caught within it—instigators and

riffraff—are relentlessly pursued. Alfredo, 22 years of age, employed at a Varadero hotel up until the beginning of the year, had wandered heavily intoxicated through the tourist center at night howling "Down with Fidel!" He was cited for "disrupting the public order". This man, who until that time had had an umblemished record, received four months without parole. Since the imprisonment he has been considered an enemy of the state, can find no job, and his house is watched.

In the meantime, he has joined the small opposition group, "Manifest of Harmony". "Above all, we want political pluralism. The hermetic seal surrounding government officials must be broken, so that people can finally decide what is good and sensible for Cuba." Alfredo says that many of those who know about the revolution only from lecture halls and are free of sentimentalism towards Castro, no longer believe that a change in course is possible with him. In conclusion he says, "31 ni palante, 32 ni comandante," [31 years and not moving on, and no more commandante in the 32nd year.] [passage omitted]

Hidalgo Basulto Named Vice Foreign Minister

FL2311184990 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] At the request of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee Politburo, the Council of State has agreed to dismiss Jose R. Viera from the post of first vice foreign minister and appoint Alcibiades Hidalgo Basulto in his place.

Hidalgo was coordinator of the restructuring process of the Central Committee's International Relations Department. Alcibiades Hidalgo, a journalist by trade, is 45 years old. He has been member of our party since 1976 and worked as Central Committee officer [words indistinct]. He was student leader in his native province, Camaguey, and member of the National Directorate of the Secondary Students Union. He resumed his studies after he completed the military service in 1967. He was a FEU [Federation of University Students] delegate in the [words indistinct] propaganda department. Between 1970 and 1974, he worked at the Cuban Book Institute and later worked at PRENSA LATINA until 1981.

As Central Committee official, Alcibiades Hidalgo has efficiently and consistently fulfilled several missions. Among them, he was member of the Cuban delegation to the quatripartite negotiations of the southern Africa conflict and more recently, he headed the Cuban observer mission to Namibia.

Soviet Official Terms Relations 'Excellent'

FL2411020090 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Valeriy Nikolayenko, director of the Latin American Countries Department of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, repeated today in Moscow that the Soviet Union considers it inadmissible for other countries to interfere in Cuba's internal affairs. Referring to Cuban-Soviet relations, the Foreign Ministry official described them as excellent, and directed towards continuing to help Cuba under the difficult conditions of economic embargo and military threats.

In recent times we have had some problems with our economy and this has been reflected in our deliveries to Cuba, Nikolayenko recalled, and then went on to evaluate this as a temporary factor free from any political nuance, according to a report by PRENSA LATINA.

Vietnamese Minister Marks Anniversary of Ties

FL2311213090 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2059 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] In Hanoi, Vietnamese Commerce Minister Hoang Minh Thang has stressed the significance of the establishment of trade relations between his country and Cuba three decades ago. Minh Thang spoke about this in a ceremony marking the upcoming 30th anniversary of these ties, which were normalized along with diplomatic relations on 2 December 1960.

At the gathering, which was also attended by Cuban Ambassador Armando Saucedo, Cuban trade representative Wilfredo Blanco also stressed the coincidence of this date with the 34th anniversary of the landing of the Granma expedition. Since the very start of Cuban-Vietnamese relations, the two nations have helped each other in all areas, and during the war in Vietnam Cuba was one of its firmest allies in condemning the Yankee genocide.

Raul Castro Welcomes Mozambican Defense Minister

FL2411131990 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Army General Raul Castro, second secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR], has received Army General Alberto Joaquim Chipande. Army General Chipande is minister of national defense of the Republic of Mozambique. Other FAR chiefs and officers also welcomed the military delegation.

Army General Chipande and the delegation accompanying him will pay an official visit in Cuba at the invitation of the FAR minister. During their stay in our country, they will tour places of economic, political, social, and military interest. On his arrival, the top Mozambican military chief asserted that this visit will contribute to strengthen the friendship ties existing between the two countries and their armed forces.

Rafael Rodriguez Meets With Argentine Official

FL2411130590 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Council of State and Ministers, has received (Selmira

Regassoli), deputy foreign minister of the Republic of Argentina, who is visiting Cuba within the framework of the ECLA's [Economic Commission for Latin America] Executive Board meeting on women. They discussed the development of that meeting and matters of mutual interest regarding international politics.

Lionel Soto Receives Guyanese Prime Minister

FL2411134690 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Hamilton Green, prime minister of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, accompanied by his wife, was received by Lionel Soto, vice president of the Council of Ministers. The two parties exchanged views on the international situation, especially in the Caribbean area, and dealt with the strengthening of cooperation between Cuba and Guyana.

Ambassador Calls on Congolese Prime Minister

FL2411133590 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Acting Congolese Prime Minister Pierre Moussa has received Cuban Ambassador Juan Cesar Diaz who assessed new forms of cooperation between the two countries. Moussa and Diaz discussed matters of mutual interest for Brazzaville and Havana and the newly established mechanisms to broaden bilateral relations. Congo and Cuba have maintained diplomatic and economic relations since the sixties and have signed several cooperation agreements in the areas of science and technology, education, and culture.

Bermuda

Sir John Swan Regrets Thatcher Resignation

FL2311185590 Bridgetown CANA in English 1741 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Hamilton, Bermuda, Nov. 22, CANA—Bermuda Premier Sir John Swan said he had learned of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's resignation with regret, but would always be grateful to her for the interest she had shown in this British colony.

Although her decision was regrettable, Sir John said it was typical of the principles that had guided her during her 11-year term as prime minister, "that is that the interests of the country must take precedence over those of one individual."

"Your tenacity, singleness of purpose, and unswerving commitment to bringing about a new era in the political life of the United Kingdom has earned you admiration and respect, both nationally and internationally," said Sir John in a personal letter to Mrs. Thatcher.

He said he recalled with warmth the visit she and U.S. President George Bush paid to Bermuda for a mini-summit here on Good Friday "and what a pleasure it was for you to renew your ties with Bermuda."

He added: "I shall always be grateful to you, as premier, for the interest you have taken in Bermuda and the excellent working relationship we have enjoyed throughout your tenure as prime minister.

"I am confident that, despite having relinquished the position of prime minister, you will continue to play a prominent role in the direction of the affairs of the United Kingdom. And in that regard you have my warmest good wishes."

Opposition leader Frederick Wade said he was sad to see Thatcher go in such an unsavoury manner but he hoped her departure would signal a change for the better for Britain's "ordinary people."

Dominica

Eugenia Charles Rejects Parallel to Thatcher

FL2311183590 Bridgetown CANA in English 1724 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, Nov. 22, CANA—Dominica's Prime Minister Eugenia Charles dismissed suggestions by her critics on Thursday that Margaret Thatcher's resignation as British prime minister, pointed to her own political demise.

Charles, who called Thatcher after the news broke that she was stepping down as British prime minister and conservative party leader, told CANA she intended completing her third term in office.

"There's no reason for me to resign," she said.

"I'm getting the things done for Dominica that I want to do and (as) I've said that I will not be running again at the end of this term, I am going to see the term through and see that the things that I want for Dominica and for Dominica's future are put in place."

Since Charles' Dominica Freedom Party was re-elected with a one seat majority last may, the opposition has maintained pressure on the government.

An opposition motion of no-confidence is expected to be debated at the next sitting of Parliament.

Dominican Republic

Balaguer Proclaims Strike 'Political'

FL2311160990 Santo Domingo Cadena de Noticias in Spanish 0930 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Report on statement by President Joaquin Balaguer; place and date not given]

[Text] President Joaquin Balaguer has reaffirmed that the five-day strike called by several dissident organizations was political in nature. According to the president, his government is working to meet the demand for all kinds of goods.

[Begin Balaguer recording] Last Thursday, I spoke exclusively about the strike, the motives behind the strike, the reasons for calling the strike. I said it was essentially a political strike, but I also discussed the economic aspects that would be affected by the strike. I mentioned the measures that are being taken to resupply the country with foodstuffs. I also discussed the measures that are being taken to resolve the oil crisis; the enormous effort that the public administration has had to make to solve this problem that arrived unexpectedly, and that represents enormous sacrifices for the country, because, as I have said on many occasions, we are being obliged to pay up to $40 for a barrel of oil that formerly cost 18 pesos [currency as heard]. [end recording]

The chief executive said that the national crisis, which continues basically to affect the poor, is being resolved.

[Begin Balaguer recording] That enormous difference forced the government to take special measures. It is a crisis, as I said on that occasion, that we are trying to resolve, and that is being resolved in a satisfactory manner within the capabilities of the government and the country.

You ask me....[changes thought] You say it would have been advisable for the speech to have dealt with economic matters, as most of the country expected. I did not feel that was appropriate at the time. That strike was not based on economic concerns. [end recording]

According to Dr. Balaguer, his policy of planting steel rods and concrete [as heard] is not to blame for the country's serious economic crisis. He said that, on the contrary, that policy is solving problems.

Favors Agreement With IMF

FL2311200590 Santo Domingo Radio-Television Dominicana Radio Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] President Joaquin Balaguer has asserted that the serious economic problems the country is experiencing will be solved when the government signs a new agreement with the IMF. Although President Balaguer reiterated that he refuses to negotiate with the international creditor organizations under the same conditions the previous governments did, he said an agreement needs to be reached because, without it, the country would be strangled economically.

The chief of state noted that the government has already held talks with IMF representatives and that the letter of intention will be released soon. This would pave the way for the signing of a new agreement to obtain loans that would allow the country to head toward economic development. The president of the Republic defended his housing building policy in the entire country and said this policy contributes to dealing with the crisis.

He also noted that, during his speech delivered last Thursday, he did not refer to the economic area specifically because the recent strike was political in nature. The president of the Republic was interviewed by reporters at the Guachupita sector at the end of a ceremony inaugurating a housing project which he presented to low-income people.

Police Release 200 Detainees After Strike

FL2311165990 Santo Domingo Cadena de Noticias in Spanish 0930 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] The office of the chief of police has released some 200 people who were arrested prior to and during the strike that paralyzed the country for three days. Among those released were Diego Navarro Torres, a lawyer, and Ignacio Rodriguez Chiappini, president of the Anti-imperialist Union. The institution announced, however, that Navarrete councilman Fausto Lopez and dozens of other people accused of a terrorist attack in that city in Cibao will remain under arrest. The detainees were released to their relatives at the Palacio de la Uniformada and at detachments in the interior.

On the eve of the movement, the authorities had released Hipolito Medina, a doctor, and Aquiles Castro, president of the Federation of Dominican Students.

Juan Bosch Conditionally Approves Referendum

FL2311203290 Santo Domingo Radio-Television Dominicana Radio Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Professor Juan Bosch said yesterday that he is willing to participate in a referendum in which that the population is consulted regarding a constitutional reform to hold elections in 1992. The [Dominican Liberation Party] leader said, however, his party would participate if the referendum is held on the initiative of the government. Professor Bosch expressed doubts about the government authorities, and asserted that they would not be willing to give up the advantages and benefits they currently enjoy. The political leader spoke yesterday morning during a television program in which he also referred to other political matters.

Grenada

Brathwaite 'Shocked' by Thatcher Resignation

FL2611145590 Bridgetown CANA in English 2201 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] St. George's, Grenada, Nov. 25, CANA—Grenada Prime Minister Nicholas Brathwaite does not expect British leader Margaret Thatcher's resignation to make a major difference to ties between the two countries.

"I don't think that it would make any significant difference at this time," he said. "I believe that the relationship will continue to be good." He expected that "all the arrangements that we have entered into would be honored and the only difference would come when elections are held."

Mrs. Thatcher resigned last week amidst a revolt in her party that saw her being challenged for the leadership. She would have had to face a second poll Tuesday after narrowly beating Michael Heseltine.

"We always saw her as the Iron Lady, and we thought she would have held out for the second vote on her leadership, so we were shocked to learn that she had pulled out," Brathwaite said.

Haiti

RDC Leader Cites Complaints Against Government

FL2311204890 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1200 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Haitian Democratic Assembly [RDC] leader Eddy Volel has made a statement that is similar to the position of the Metropolitan Area Public Transport Drivers Union [SCTPM] against the decision taken by Mrs. Trouillot to raise the price of everything.

[Begin Volel recording] We know that the government as well the Army are dishonest and it is true that:

1. The Army does not want to obey the orders of the government commissioner while it is giving criminals, Zenglendos and anarchists support and good treatment;

2. Ertha Trouillot's government is selling on the black market products such as flour, milk, and gasoline that some friendly countries give the Haitian people as gifts;

3. This same bad government does not provide any public services while at the same time increasing taxation on alcohol, gasoline, license plates, driver's license, special tax labels, departure tax and so on. Ertha Trouillot has had to tax trash in order to raise money;

4. The government does not pay public employees in hospitals and teachers to force them to strike, and that there are disorders just for spoiling the elections. The government has taken all these unfair measures to cause a general uprising. Should such situation arise, it can find pretexts to cancel the forthcoming 16 December elections that promise to put an end to dictatorship, tortures and vagabondage in Haiti.

We, in RDC, are asking the Haitian people to pay much attention to the behavior of President Ertha Trouillot and General Herard Abraham who are exercising their power to torture the Haitian people, to break up Haiti, and who are about to cause a national disaster because of the upcoming 16 December elections. [end recording]

Rejected Presidential Candidate Criticizes CEP

FL2411151090 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1700 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Italicized passages are recorded]

[Excerpts] Gregoire Eugene, leader of the PSCH [Haitian Social Christian Party], rejected by the CEP [Provisional Electoral Council] as presidential candidate, yesterday warned about manipulated elections that would benefit some extremist people.

[Reporter Jean Max Blanc] *Rejected candidate Gregoire Eugene considers the past events of November 1987 elections as banalities compared to what can take place during 16 Dec 1990 election. To support his statements, Mr. Eugene referred to some doubts crossing his mind regarding the CEP's credibility to organize trustworthy elections.*

In a news conference, he cited different articles from the Haitian Constitution as well as the Universal Article on Human Rights in talking about the unconstitutionality of the CEP's decision with regards to his candidacy. He also denounced the complicity of the United states along with the members of United Nations who support all actions taken by the CEP. According to Mr. Eugene, the presence of these observers is immoral, because the observers guarantee all actions taken by the CEP.

Mr. Eugene said had the CEP advised him of his disqalification because of money, he would have sent a petition on the radio and all his friends would have collected money to send him to the elections. And even if that had happened, the CEP would have found other pretexts not to let him participate in the elections. He gave three reasons as basis for such a decision: first, because he always criticizes the CEP and the electoral law; second, because the CEP is aware of the danger that he, Gregoire Eugene, represents in the elections; and third, because he participated in the January 1988 elections. According to Mr. Eugene, all the countries that are members of the Inter-American Convention for Human Rights should not accept the results of the forthcoming elections on 16 December. [passage omitted]

[Blanc] *Mr. Eugene insisted on the danger hanging on the country's head during the forthcoming elections. According to the rejected candidate, civil war might be declared in the country if the elections are manipulated to the advantage of an extremist group.* [passage omitted]

[Blanc] *The presence of lawyer Martial Celestin, Manigat's former prime minister, was noticed during the conference. When Eugene was asked about the meaning of Celestin's presence, his answer was: Birds of a feather flock together. Before the conference, lawyer Celestin said he was looking for ways for a possible alliance with the Assembly of Progressive National Democrats and Eugene's party. Eugene admitted, however, he had no chances of participating in the elections. His major concern is that the CEP is a Supreme Court and no one can appeal once the council takes a decision.*

Popular Organizations Address Election Query

FL2311201590 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1700 GMT 20 Nov 90

[Text] A dozen syndicates and popular organizations have expressed opinions regarding the organization of the upcoming elections, addressing the question: Elections, why and how?

[Begin recording] [Reporter] Three weeks before the 16 December elections, the questions, Elections, Why and How? are being asked by various popular organizations. On Monday morning, a dozen such groups sat around a table at their usual meeting place, where they developed a general statement regarding the elections. In this statement, the representatives of the syndicates assert that organized plots are being prepared to falsify the elections.

Their joint statement also lists the names of candidates who are targeted for assassination, before, during, or after elections, among them Jean-Bertrand Aristide. They also note that certain members of the aristocracy intend to control the elections according to their own schema, under the pretext that elections are the only means of liberating the country from the current situation. The general staff of these organizations disregards plans for the holding of elections, a means of catching Aristide in a trap later. According to these statements, there are other intentions for putting a different candidate in power.

Faced with so many adverse possibilities, the popular organizations are asking the population to work together to prevent the operations of the reactionary sector.

[First organization representative] We are clear in our position: popular organizations will participate in authentic elections, but not in fraudulent ones. They will participate with all the other organizations who support Aristide's candidacy.

[Second representative] We on the side of the people, within the popular organizations wanting total change, see clearly that elections alone cannot bring the total change that the general population needs.

[Reporter] The representatives also discussed the study of a a democratic platform to allow the popular sector to gain strength in order to unanimously participate in the ongoing struggle for the establishment of democracy in the country. Several representatives, announced a national congress to be organized before, during, and after the elections, with the objective of communicating their demands to the authorities.

Elections, why and how? These are the questions being raised by several popular organizations regarding the forthcoming elections. [end recording]

Government Appoints New Port-au-Prince Mayor

FL2311200090 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1200 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] The Trouillot provisional government appointed a new mayor of Port-au-Prince last night. The new mayor is Widner Gerard Vital-Herne, 48 years old, a lawyer and teacher of Philosophy and Social Sciences who is reported to have no well-known political affiliation. He is replacing Irene Ridore, companion to Evans Paul, alias K-Plim, the municipal candidate of the National Front for Change and Democracy [FNCD] for Port-au-Prince as provisional mayor.

Mrs. Ridore was appointed last March shortly after the Prosper Avril regime fell, when Mrs. Trouillot came to power. Ridore managed to make some reforms and create a degree of order at Port-au-Prince City Hall under difficult circumstances. Mrs. Ridore is the wife of one of the major candidates running for mayor of Port-au-Prince, Evans Paul, an FNCD candidate supporting the presidential candidacy of Father Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

Jamaica

Manley, Seaga Praise Thatcher's Leadership

FL2311221090 Bridgetown CANA in English 2024 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Nov 23, CANA—Jamaica Prime Minister Michael Manley has thanked his British counterpart Margaret Thatcher for the friendship she has shown to succeeding governments and the people of Jamaica, his office said Friday. Jamaica House said that in a letter sent Thursday shortly after announcing her resignation Manley recalled their discussion in London last year, describing it as very useful.

Manley said he was sure that she looked back over her many years of leadership with an "immense sense of achievement". He was also sure that she would continue in other ways to serve her country's national interest as well as the international family of nations.

Opposition leader Edward Seaga in a statement said Mrs. Thatcher would be missed. "No one can deny the tremendous impact she has made since being elected leader of the British Conservative Party 15 years ago and particularly in her 11 years as prime minister," Seaga said. He noted that she had established many records including winning a third term in office. He said she had exhibited outstanding courage, determination, resilience and far-sightedness.

Parliament Passes New Law on Extradition

FL2311220090 Bridgetown CANA in English 1949 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Nov 23, CANA—Parliament has passed new provisions for extraditing criminals to and from Jamaica. The original bill was passed in 1987

but did not become law because it was riddled with printing errors. Opposition members pointed to what they called disquieting aspects of the bill.

Opposition Jamaica Labour Party spokesman Neville Lewis was unhappy that people could be extradited for conspiracy, that plea bargaining in the United States could hold serious implications for Jamaican nationals here and that retroactivity was a feature of the bill. But Minister of Justice and Attorney General Carl Rattray explained that as far as Jamaican nationals were concerned the minister would exercise discretion whether such persons should be extradited, despite what the courts might say.

But where a Jamaican national held dual citizenship then the discretion would not be exercised, he noted. The minister also said that extradition could be refused where the offence was of a political nature, excluding genocide.

Under the provisions of the bill, an extraditable offence had to carry at least a two year prison term here as well as in the requesting country. Persons cannot be extradited here on one offence and be tried on others in the requesting country or sent to a third country for trial. On the matter of retroactivity, Rattray said that once the offence was committed then what was being said was there was no safe haven.

Bauxite, Alumina Production Expected To Rise

FL2311181090 Bridgetown CANA in English 1529 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Nov. 22, CANA—After being battered by soft demand during the 80's, Jamaica's vital bauxite/alumina industry is continuing on a path of recovery and looks set for stabilisation and growth during the 90's, according to a report in the November issue of CANABUSINE, the Caribbean News Agency's business and financial newsletter. Jamaica is the world's third largest bauxite producer after Australia and Guinea.

"Overall, bauxite production for 1990 will be approximately 10.8 million tonnes, or about 20 percent higher than last year," said Dr. Carlton Davis, executive director of Jamaica Bauxite Institute (JBI), a government agency that oversees the industry. This expected growth in production follows a 33 percent rise in output in 1989.

"There is a clear trend of growth," said Davis. The 1990 bauxite production will be highest in the decade, nearing the 12 million tonnes of 1980, since the island was hit by the recession that curbed demand for aluminum. Bauxite is refined to alumina, which is then smelted into aluminum.

If several projects now on the drawing board were to pan out, production could reach between 12 million and 13 million tonnes by the mid-1990's. This, however, will be still below the peak 15 million tonnes of 16 years ago. But even more important to the Jamaicans than the recent growth in the amount of bauxite mined, is the sharp rise in alumina production. According to JBI estimates, alumina output this year will reach 2.8 million tonnes, 26 percent higher than 1989, and 95 percent of rated capacity.

"What is happening in alumina is more significant," explained Davis, "because the value-added is four times higher than for bauxite. This year gross export earnings from alumina will be in the order of U.S. 650 million dollars, which should put the industry about neck-and-neck with tourism." The sector grossed U.S. 557.7 million dollars in 1989, 40 percent higher than the previous year. In the 1970's, bauxite/alumina accounted for two-thirds and more of Jamaica's foreign exchange earnings. The rapid growth in tourism in the 1980's helped to take up some of the slack left by bauxite/alumina. It still accounts for 60 percent of merchandise earnings.

The resurgence of the sector, with its estimated earnings retention rate of about 45 percent, is particularly good news at a time when Jamaica is on a fast track to economic liberalisation with its concomitant stresses. A number of factors are influencing the resurgence of the industry. Not least, of course, is the recovery of the international aluminum market in recent years. Aluminum consumption expanded over three percent a year between 1986 and 1989, and is now expected to settle down to growth of between 2 percent and 2.5 percent per annum. Add to that the worldwide squeeze out of marginal alumina and aluminum capacity during the 1980's recession and Jamaica's re-organisation of its taxation regime to make it more attractive for the companies to do business on the island.

The aluminum oajors [as received] balked at the production levy, imposed by Michael Manley's previous government in 1974, that required them to pay 7.5 percent (subsequently lowered to an average six percent) of the average realised price for primary aluminum ingot. They argued that levy, an upfront tax, made Jamaica expensive and shifted production away from the island.

For example, the Alumina Company of Canada (Alcan), whose two refineries in Jamaica have a capacity of 1.1 million tonnes, have pushed production up to 90 percent and have not gone further only because of a lack of capacity for the red mud, the effluent from refining bauxite, at one of its facilities.

The 1.1 million tonne alumina partners, closed for several years, went fully back into production in 1989, with Norway's Norsk Hydro joining Reynolds as co-owner. Norsk Hydro is talking of increasing capacity by between 200,000 and 400,000 tonnes. Clarendon Alumina Production (CAP), owned jointly by the Aluminum Company of America (ALCOA) and the Jamaica Government, is running close to its 750,000 tonnes. The government is committed to pushing the plant's capacity to a million tonnes by the mid-1990's.

Additionally, Jamaica and Alcan are considering a new one million tonne refinery on Northern Jamaica and a pre-feasibility study to be unveiled this month will be a more detailed and definitive study on the project.

Such a plant would cost also [as received] attempting to get Trinidad and Tobago seriously interested in a 300,000 tonne aluminum smelter, which would be sited in Trinidad and Tobago. It would use Trinidad and Tobago's cheap natural gas and Jamaican alumina. Jamaican technocrats argue that capital can be raised for such a venture by the governments taking small stakes and involving European, South Korean, and Japanese resources.

Montserrat

Osborne Praises Thatcher Decision To Resign

FL2311185090 Bridgetown CANA in English 1727 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Plymouth, Montserrat, Nov 22, CANA—Montserrat's Chief Minister John Osborne, who will his 11th year [as received] as head of government of this British colony on Friday, said British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher made a wise decision in resigning as leader of the conservative party on Thursday.

"I think she did what any wise leader would do in the circumstances," Osborne told CANA [Caribbean News Agency]. "By doing so, she expressed her will and determination to maintain order and unity within her party."

Friday is a public holiday here to mark the ruling People's Liberation Party's 11th anniversary in office. The day has been a holiday since the party came to power.

No formal programme for the day has been announced.

Trinidad and Tobago

Health Minister Named Candidate in By-Election

FL2311215790 Bridgetown CANA in English 1925 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, Nov 23, CANA—Trinidad and Tobago's ruling National Alliance for Reconstruction [NAR] has named Health Minister Senator Clive Pantin as its candidate for a December 17 by-election. The NAR announced here Thursday that Pantin would contest the by-election in the Diego Martin Central constituency to fill the vacancy created by the death of former government Member of Parliament Leo Des Vignes.

Des Vignes died while undergoing an operation for a gunshot wound sustained during the coup attempt in late July by a rebel Muslim group. Pantin, a former education minister, was given the health portfolio in a recent reshuffle of cabinet by Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson.

1-Year Fishing Agreement Signed With Barbados

FL2311222290 Bridgetown CANA in English 2104 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Report by Linda Hutchinson]

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, Nov 23, CANA—Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados on Friday signed a one-year fishing agreement which allows Barbadians to fish in the waters of the twin-island state. The agreement, which becomes effective the beginning of next year, was signed by Fisheries Minister of Barbados Warwick Franklyn and Trinidad and Tobago's External Affairs Minister Dr. Sahadeo Basdeo.

"The owner of licenced Barbados vessels would pay 800 US dollars for a fishing licence which will entitle each vessel to five fishing trips to Trinidad and Tobago's waters during the period January 1 to April 30, 1991," the agreement read in part. The Trinidad fishing season ends April 30.

Dr. Basdeo said he hopes the agreement will serve to "enhance the already" excellent bilateral relations between the countries.

The Barbados Government under the agreement is committed to granting licences for the importation of 300 metric tonnes of whole and processed flying fish and "associated pelagic species" from approved vendors here. The Trinidad and Tobago Government is to grant access to fishing areas within its exclusive economic zone to not more than forty Barbados fishing vessels.

"It is my sincere hope that the successful negotiation of this agreement will serve as a catalyst for the deepening of functional cooperation in the marine sector to include marine scientific research, conservation of marine resources and marine delimitation, not only between Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados but also within the Caribbean Community (Caricom) family of nations," Dr. Basdeo said at the signing ceremony.

The agreement, which aims at regulating the fishing operations of a restricted number of Barbados vessels in a fishing area to reduce conflict between fishermen of both countries, will be supervised by a fisheries commission comprising representatives of Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados.

Under the agreement, provision is made for Trinidad and Tobago observers to be placed on board the licensed Barbados fishing vessels. The masters of the vessels are required to report to the Coast Guard in Trinidad and Tobago on their entry into the fishing area and on their departure. The owners of the Barbados vessels are committed to maintaining a daily fishing log giving quantities and species of fish caught. This log is to be returned to the authorities in Trinidad and Tobago.

The Barbados fisheries minister said the agreement marks another milestone between both countries. He said although four years had elapsed from the beginning of the negotiations, "there was never any doubts in my mind that we would reach an agreement".

He continued, "My optimism resided in the fact that traditionally Barbados had always enjoyed excellent relations with Trinidad and Tobago and even when things appeared not to be going alright, we always found a way of restoring the balance."

Pemex Oil Revenues for First 9 Months Reported

PA2511035090 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0204 GMT 22 Nov 90

[All figures as received]

[Text] Mexico City, 21 Nov (NOTIMEX)—Mexico has earned $5.697 billion in revenues during the first nine months of this year for exporting 1.244 million barrels of crude petroleum daily. The petroleum company Pemex announced that, according to a preliminary report, the average export price during this time was $16.77 a barrel, about $4 over the 1990 budgeted price.

The company also reported that between January and September the average sale price was $19.79 a barrel for Isthmus petroleum, $14.94 a barrel for Maya petroleum, and $21.02 a barrel for Olmeca petroleum.

Of the total daily exports in the first nine months, 758,000 barrels of petroleum, in three grades, were sent to the Western Hemisphere, 333,000 to Europe, and 104,000 to the Far East.

During that same period, Pemex placed 276,000 barrels of Isthmus petroleum in those three geographical regions, for a total of more than $1.491 billion. It placed 813,000 barrels of Maya heavy petroleum a day, for a total of $3.315 billion, and 150,000 barrels of Olmeca petroleum, for a total of $891 million.

Solana Previews Salinas, Bush Talks Agenda

PA2411042290 Mexico City XHTV Television in Spanish 0200 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] At a news conference today, Foreign Relations Secretary Fernando Solana Morales spoke about the upcoming meeting between the presidents of Mexico and the United States.

Solana Morales said that Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari and U.S. President George Bush will not negotiate any issues, but will assess the state of bilateral relations.

Solana Morales held a news conference today in Los Pinos to discuss the meeting of the two presidents which will take place on 26 and 27 November. He explained that the agenda will include discussion of the free-trade agreement, the Uruguay round, specific trade problems, the antidrug war, and, for the first time, the topic of violence along the border, which is very important to our country.

[Begin Solana Morales recording] Unfortunately, the problems of Mexican citizens in several parts of the border continue. The problems have not been solved, or at least the Mexican citizens do not consider the solutions fair. Apart from the work we are doing in consulates and through diplomatic channels on orders from the president, it is very probable that this topic will emerge during the meeting. Both presidents believe that good relations begin at the border. [end recording]

Solana recalled that this is the sixth time that Presidents Salinas and Bush will be meeting. He stressed the importance of their personal relations in solving problems.

Referring to the Uruguay round, Solana said that if an agreement is not reached the world economy will be affected. He explained, however, that thanks to its open trade relations, Mexico would be one of the least affected countries.

PGR Reports 170 Clandestine Landing Strips

PA2311160990 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1901 GMT 19 Nov 90

[Text] Cancun, 19 Nov (NOTIMEX)—Adolfo Chacon Ruiz, deputy state delegate of the Attorney General's Office (PGR), reported today that approximately 170 clandestine landing strips have been discovered in Quintana Roo and Yucatan States. The landing strips were allegedly used by drug traffickers.

The PGR official said that Colombian drug traffickers use territories in these two states to refuel their planes and ships to transport drugs to the United States via Miami, Florida.

Chacon Ruiz stated that supposed oceanographers who investigate maritime currents in the Caribbean are apparently contacts for the drug traffickers and receive cocaine packages dropped from planes.

He stressed that Federal agents will intensify the search for drug traffickers on land, as well as at sea.

Chacon Ruiz said that authorities have not detected marijuana fields in the peninsula and that the soil there is too poor to grow it.

* Luis Tellez Cites Ejido Co-Investment Plans

91CA0017A Monterrey EL NORTE in Spanish 19 Oct 90 p 21-A

[Interview with Luis Tellez Kuenzler, undersecretary of agriculture and hydraulic resources by Janine Rodiles; place and place not given]

[Text] Mexico City, 18 Oct—A total of 17 Mexican enterprises are participating in rural investment projects costing 1.2 trillion pesos, Luis Tellez Kuenzler, undersecretary of agriculture and hydraulic resources, said yesterday. The co-investments are mainly planned with ejido [Indian communally-held farmlands] members based on a program to revitalize Mexican rural areas through modernization.

In an exclusive interview with EL NORTE the official said that such investments would benefit thousands of farmers in 14 different states.

The projects emerged from the Rural Modernization Program which permits partnerships between national and foreign private investors and ejido members and small producers. The following is an excerpt from that interview.

[Rodiles] What are the main challenges facing the modernization of agriculture?

[Tellez Kuenzler] The modernization of agriculture is a very complicated and difficult undertaking because it is a sector with many limitations as well as cultural, technological, and social problems. Changes will not come about as rapidly as they do in the industrial or financial sector. We encounter problems of fluctuating prices, low profitability, decapitalization, and minifundismo [land tenure system characterized by very small landholdings].

[Rodiles] One of the main problems is land ownership. Under such a system, what will happen to the ejidos?

[Tellez Kuenzler] It has been reported that the ejido will be restored to private ownership, but this will definitely not happen. It is erroneously believed that it is unproductive, but we have observed that it is just as productive as small landholdings as long as it has resources and security in terms of land ownership. What is a problem, on the other hand, is minifundismo.

What we are seeking is the association of many minifundistas [owners of very small plots of land] and many small landowners with industrial entrepreneurs. We have made progress in combining the efforts of national and foreign private investors in a union of ejido members and small landowners. By way of example, there are now 17 co-investment projects in different branches of agriculture such as forestry, fishing, farming, and ranching, which have plans for infrastructure projects, marketing, and state-of-the-art technology. It is a very interesting program that can also rely on support from commercial banks.

[Rodiles] The Rural Modernization Program proposes to open up the sector commercially. Is Mexican agriculture ready to take such a step?

[Tellez Kuenzler] What we want is for the price policy to be on a par with prices on the international market. We have made progress with rice, sorghum, soybeans, and wheat, and we understand that producers will suffer during the transition when they are forced to reduce production costs and improve profitability. There is discontent on this point, but we have given assistance to producers hit the hardest. Whatever the case, the commercial opening is a necessary step in order to improve competitiveness. In the case of corn, milk, and beans, government supports and subsidies will continue, as will commercial protection. These are fundamental products in the Mexican diet.

[Rodiles] In terms of that opening, have you considered the serious problems that producers will face while they are going through the transition to modernization?

[Tellez Kuenzler] Yes. That is why we have also developed a specific financing program for the marketing of basic products affected by that opening.

[Rodiles] What is the prevailing international situation and what does Mexico propose within the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)?

[Tellez Kuenzler] Agriculture on international markets is an area in which there has been excessive intervention. There are high subsidies, tariffs, and discretionary quantitative restrictions. Despite the fact that agricultural production represents less than ten percent of the world market, it accounts for 54 percent of all GATT disputes. In Mexico, agriculture also has subsidies for fertilizer, electricity, and water, but they have been reduced substantially. We have a convincing position that seeks to eliminate hidden systems of protection and lead to a true commercial opening.

[Rodiles] What has been the impact of the opening on the agricultural trade balance?

[Tellez Kuenzler] It seems paradoxical, but the trade balance has improved this past year. In July 1989, there was a positive trade balance of $7 million, while for July of this year, we had a surplus of $315 million, which reveals good progress toward the opening. It does have its price but it is a step toward modernization of the sector.

[Rodiles] What will be done to solve the problem of the lack of financing in rural areas?

[Tellez Kuenzler] We have given up the paternalistic system of financing the sector with low interest rates, which basically hurts the financial system and savers in general. ANAGSA [National Agricultural and Cattle-Raising Insurance Company] has been declared bankrupt and BANRURAL [National Rural Credit Bank] has been reorganized, so we have a "trinomial" of credit assistance. Low-income producers will be supported through the National Solidarity Program and we have made progress in Chiapas, Hidalgo, and Guerrero. In the case of medium-income farmers, credit will be channeled through AgroASEMEX [expansion unknown] and BANRURAL, and commercial banks are extending loans to commercial producers.

But another important factor in agricultural financing will be the Agricultural Exchange. We are working on this and it will be in operation by the beginning of 1991.

Working With the Ejido

Enterprise	Investment	Region	Purpose
CIGATAM	68 billion	Nayarit	Replace 2,600 tobacco ovens with modern equipment, benefiting 4,700 producers on 9,500 hectares.
ICA	48 billion	Chihuahua	Rationalize forestry and industrialize raw materials through partnership with seven ejido unions in the Tarahumara zone.
PROCIGO-TROPICANA (American)	40 billion	Northern Veracruz	Promote orange exports using American technology; 2,163 hectares.
VISA	Not available	To be defined	Co-investment program with malt barley producers for commercial development.
La Moderna	Not available	Chiapas	Increase Burley tobacco production for export; 5,000 hectares. Infrastructure investment.
Natural rubber	Not available	Tabasco	Foreign investors want to increase rubber exports. Resources for roads. Ecological conditions under study.
Trasgo Group	130 billion	La Laguna and Zacatecas	Increase poultry production through large-scale economies for export to Japan. Same enterprise wants partnership with ejido members to produce wheat and oil-yielding products.
Domecq	Not available	Aguascalientes, Zacatecas, Sonora, Baja California and La Laguna	Domecq seeks partnership with producers and ejido members to improve productivity from 12 to 20 tons using modern technology and techniques; will back loans to farmers.
Domecq	20 billion	Baja California, Sinaloa, Sonora	Set up garbanza-exporting packing plant in Northern Baja California and produce frozen produce for export. Involves American and Spanish capital.
Porcicola	514 billion	Yucatan	Increase prime quality pork using best genetic technology and participation of 500 ejido groups.
Parras Industrial Plant, Ayoyac and Asturian Textile Mills	Not available	La Laguna, Sonora, Baja California	Partnership with ejido members to increase production of top quality cotton and marketing schemes; 10,000 hectares.
San Fandila Livestock	58 billion	Moreno Lakes	Construction of two poultry, hog, and cattle farms, a packing plant, and 54 poultry brooder houses.
S.P.R. Laguna de Guzman	150 billion	Chihuahua	Construction of complex including breeding, grazing, grassland planting, grain, transport, slaughter, and domestic and foreign distribution of cattle, sheep, and goats.
Duraplay de Parral	21 billion	Chihuahua and Northern Durango	Two plants to produce briquets, use cellulose material, grinding, classification and mixing of resins, processing and sizing.
Chihuahua United Cattle Producers	30 billion	Chihuahua	Construction of silos, storage facilities, livestock yards and watering facilities for cattle on 200 hectares.
COSMOFLOR	60 billion	Villa Guerrero, State of Mexico	National and foreign investors seeking to increase production of roses, carnations, and lilies. Project will generate revenue of some 200 billion pesos.
GAMESA	31 billion	General Teran and China, Nuevo Leon	Use water from Vaquerias irrigation unit to develop wheat and bean-soybean crops. GAMESA and ejido members will split profits 50/50.

El Salvador

Offensive Continues; Suspension Accord Denied

FMLN Leader Denies Agreement

PA2311195890 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1400 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Statement by Commander "Victor" of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) on 23 November; place not given—recorded]

[Text] A government communique announced over a national network says that the FMLN and the national government have reached an agreement and that we are going to suspend our military campaign. We want to state that this communique issued by the Presidential Palace of the antidemocratic regime of Cristiani is another provocation, and that the way the government is handling this issue could have results that are contrary to what the government wants. The government is seeking to provoke us, but this only displays its weakness.

Actually, what the government officials are trying to do is to settle through a short communique what they have not been able to do with over 50,000 troops, such as [words indistinct] trying to defeat a guerrilla army that in a few hours of combat in just a few days has placed the Armed Forces in a very difficult situation.

This network and this communique is a provocation against the FMLN as part of the government's psychological war. We will be closely following [words indistinct]. We want to tell our people that the government will not settle with a communique what it has not settled with 50,000 troops.

FMLN Communique on Denial

PA2411211590 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Communique issued by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front General Command in El Salvador on 23 November; read by announcer]

[Text] Communique issued by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front regarding the latest government communique that was broadcast on national network this morning, 23 November.

We report the following:

1. It is totally false that the operations of our nationwide campaign are suspended. The campaign continues.

2. It is totally false that the international community condemned the actions of our campaign. In fact, the remarks by the official U.S. government spokesman have been moderate. The international community has called on both sides to accelerate the negotiation process, which is one of the objectives of our campaign.

3. We caution the entire nation against the Cristiani government's ill-intended distortions, as they constitute reckless provocations that do not help to accelerate the negotiation process.

El Salvador, 23 November 1990

FMLN Criticizes Cristiani Remarks

PA2311221790 Paris AFP in Spanish 1953 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] San Salvador, 23 Nov (AFP)—The FMLN today flatly refuted a government report saying that the guerrillas, yielding to international pressure, agreed to "suspend" the offensive initiated four days ago.

Making the announcement over a national radio network, President Alfredo Cristiani said that "the suspension of the FMLN's offensive against the Salvadoran people represents...a triumph achieved under the pressure of the international community, which has repudiated the criminal stance of endangering the peace process."

Nevertheless, Salvador Samayoa and Miguel Saenz, members of the FMLN's political-diplomatic commission, denied the report and described the Salvadoran Government's communique as "an irresponsible move to manipulate the Costa Rican proposal for UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to personally mediate a cease-fire in El Salvador."

"We told the Costa Rican Government that its initiative is positive and that it can greatly influence a cease-fire, but the UN secretary general has not yet replied to this proposal; therefore, it is absurd to say that the FMLN has made any commitment to stop the offensive," Saenz told AFP in San Jose.

Speaking for the Salvadoran YSU radio network, Samayoa described the government's communique as "irresponsible" and said that it is a "gross manipulation" by Cristiani's government, to the detriment of the UN secretary general and other Central American governments.

"Victor," another guerrilla commander, also denied the suspension of the rebels' offensive and added that the government really "intends to do with this little communique what it has been unable to achieve with 50,000 soldiers."

Speaking through the clandestine station Radio Farabundo Marti, "Victor" pointed out: "We want to tell our people that the government will not fix the situation with a communique and that we will announce the FMLN's stand in a few hours."

In San Jose, Costa Rican Foreign Minister Bernd Niehaus said that "what the FMLN has accepted is the proposal for the UN secretary general to mediate personally" to stop the guerrilla's offensive. Niehaus, however, said that he knew nothing about any other commitment by the rebels to obey a cease-fire immediately.

Niehaus said he did not know "the purpose" of the Salvadoran Government's announcement of the FMLN's willingness to suspend the guerrillas' offensive initiated on 20 November.

'Army for Democracy' Bulletin No. 5

PA2311192890 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Bulletin No. 5 issued by the General Staff of the National Army for Democracy in El Salvador on 22 November—read by announcer]

[Text] We inform the national and international community of the following:

1. Yesterday afternoon, after annihilating enemy positions in Santa Elena, Usulutan and in the city of Chalatenango, our units attacked enemy reinforcements of the Atonal and Bracamomte Battalions. The enemy sustained 80 casualties in those clashes. A captain was wounded and weapons were seized during clashes in Chalatenango. There were also clashes in El Playon, San Vicente, where more weapons were seized and there were numerous enemy casualties.

2. At 2315, artillery units of the National Army for Democracy attacked the garrison of the 3d Infantry Brigade in San Miguel with 81-mm grenades, inflicting numerous casualties on the enemy and causing considerable damage to the garrison.

3. Also last night, urban units attacked enemy positions in San Antonio Abad in San Salvador. The power plant was partially destroyed.

4. After these latest actions, the number of enemy casualties has increased to more than 450, six garrisons have been the target of our artillery fire, nine armored vehicles have been destroyed, 10 aircraft have been grounded, and we have recovered dozens of weapons and military supplies.

The practice of annihilating fixed positions and dealing blows on reinforcements confirms the strictly military character of the campaign, "Punishment of the Anti-Democratic Armed Forces."

5. In response to our attacks on military positions, the Armed Forces have been attacking in a disorderly and indiscriminate manner; their armored vehicles have been equipped with heavy machine guns. The Armed Forces' indiscriminate fire has already caused a high number of casualties among the civilian population.

There will be no cease-fire as long as impunity continues. The National Army for Democracy will exist as long as the antidemocratic Armed Forces exist.

General Staff of the National Army for Democracy

El Salvador, 22 November 1990.

Campaign Said Bearing 'Political Fruit'

PA2311210190 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Station commentary: "Political Fruit of Our Military Campaign"]

[Text] Just three days after our military campaign began, it has already produced important political fruit that is strengthening the negotiation process. The simultaneous operations initiated on 20 November have contributed to reinforcing the thesis that the negotiations should produce firm political agreements concerning the role of the Armed Forces in Salvadoran society.

In that regard, political and social forces in our country have clearly perceived that negotiations will advance if the Armed Forces are pressured. Leaders of political parties and grass-roots organizations are at this time warning the government and Armed Forces that the current conflict is due to their intransigence, and above all, to their total lack of attention to demands from the Salvadoran people.

In that sense, external pressures are beginning to work at forcing the Arena [Nationalist Republican Alliance] regime into accepting the dismantlement and reorganization of the factors that caused the armed conflict.

A recent statement by UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar was positive and sketches the path that Cristiani has persistently avoided.

In the same manner, Central American presidents, despite their political closeness with the Arena regime, have said they favor a negotiated solution to the conflict.

These international and regional positions coincide with efforts conducted by the Mexican and some European governments to create a group of countries supporting the negotiation.

All these actions encourage the national forces to struggle for a real and irreversible negotiation process. National and international efforts have put the dictatorship against the wall.

Our political goal is to substantially contribute to the advancement of the negotiations until the criminal Armed Forces are separated. Our effective military campaign has already borne political fruit to advance the negotiations. It is time for all the political and social forces to exert pressure to bend the Armed Forces colonels and their fratidical determination to overpower civilian society.

Today there are more objective conditions to negotiate. Chances for advancing in the current political juncture are greater if we are sure of our ability to launch a strategic offensive if necessary.

Rebels Reportedly Down Plane

PA2311212790 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 2000 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Attention Radio Cadena YSU listeners. This is a last minute report. Attention. During the heavy fighting reported this afternoon, Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front rebels downed a Fouga plane. According to what we have been able to see from this location, where we are reporting, a Fouga plane was hit by rifle fire. The pilot jumped out. Right now, Salvadoran Air Force helicopters are flying over the area where the pilot jumped. They are trying to rescue him.

The fighting continues north of Usulutan. Approximately 10 or 12 minutes ago, 6th Infantry Brigade soldiers were deployed to the site of the crash.

Government Denounces Plane Downing

PA2411033190 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 0240 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Communique No. 7 issued by the Salvadoran Government in San Salvador on 23 November; read by announcer]

[Text] The Salvadoran Government denounces and expresses its most vigorous condemnation for the escalation of violence, which runs counter to the peace agreements of Geneva and Caracas, on the part of the FMLN. In the past 72 hours, the FMLN has been using sophisticated war equipment such as the SAM-7 and SAM-14 surface-to-air missiles. This is an extremely dangerous action which could affect the country's political stability.

Today, at 1345, one of those missiles downed an A-37 plane of the Salvadoran Air Forces killing its pilot, Sublieutenant Eduardo Antonio Escobar Amaya, who could not eject from the plane. This incident took place in the jurisdiction of Santa Elena, Usulutan Department.

The use of surface-to-air missiles shows that the FMLN is continuing its terrorist offensive and that far from implementing a simple military campaign, it is intent on using all means at its disposal to attain power through violent means, thus confirming that warmongering actions have prevailed over the less radical line that wants a political solution.

This action constitutes a serious blow to the peace process. The use of the aforementioned armaments, brought to Central America by the former Sandinist Government, shows that the FMLN's participation at the negotiation table is not serious and is part of their plan. The usage of these weapons also reveals that the FMLN is mocking the commitment it made to the UN secretary general to search in good faith for a peaceful solution to the armed conflict that the FMLN has caused.

The Government of the Republic of El Salvador once again voices its firm intention to continue seeking, politically, an overall and definitive solution to the Salvadoran conflict within the framework of the Geneva Accords and under the good offices of the United Nations' secretary general.

Government of the Republic of El Salvador

San Salvador, 23 November 1990

FMLN Claims Credit for Two Planes

PA2411201490 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Two Atonal Battalion companies were experiencing difficulties and asked for air reinforcements, so one O-2 Cessna reconnaissance plane and two A-37 Drangonfly airplanes flew in. At 0140, while the aircraft were boming the zone to save the companies that were under attack, our antiaircraft units opened fired on them. One airplane was hit and then crashed. This incident took place between Santa Elena and Usulutan, Usulutan Department. The fighting occurred in El Nanzal. A report from that zone says that the airplane exploded in midair with all the bombs it was carrying. One pilot was killed.

As expected, we just listened to Air Force Chief General Rafael Antonio Villamariona calling it an accident. To be sure, this is the response the Air Force always gives when our antiaircraft units down its airplanes. Back in 1984, the Armed Forces Press Committee responded to our downing of General Domingo Monterrosa's airplane by calling it an accident.

U.S. Adviser Injured in Usulutan

PA2311185290 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] In clashes which took place in Usulutan Department, our forces fired on a helicopter that was clearly in a combat mission against our forces. The aforementioned helicopter was struck by our antiaircraft fire, injuring one U.S. advisor, as was already confirmed by a U.S. Government spokesman.

We urge the U.S. Administration to withdraw the hundreds of U.S. military advisors from the theater of operations, because they will obviously get hurt during the armed clashes. This has already happened to the aforementioned U.S. advisor, who was injured in Usulutan as he participated in military actions aboard a helicopter.

In keeping with the growing opinion of the U.S. population to stop supporting an army which has murdered priests, the U.S. Government must suspend military aid to the Salvadoran regime and begin the withdrawal of U.S military personnel from our country. This would be the greatest contribution to peace and the attainment of a political solution to the conflict.

Rebel Operations Before Offensive

PA2311221990 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Communique issued by the National Army for Democracy's Francisco Sanchez Southeastern Front; place and date not given—read by announcer]

[Text] Here is a summary of the operations we carried out before the 20 November military campaign that we are calling "Punish the Antidemocratic Armed Forces."

1. Before our current campaign, and with the aim of weakening the enemy, we implemented the following operations:

a. On 14 and 15 November we annihilated a Jucuaran Battalion company and dispersed its other companies. We inflicted 48 casualties on this enemy unit and seized 15 M-16 rifles, two .60-caliber machineguns, three M-79 grenade launchers, two PRC-77 military communications radio sets, and other war materiel. These clashes took place in Galingagua, San Agustin jurisdiction.

b. On 17 November, in El Palmo, San Francisco Javier jurisdiction, we inflicted six casualties on the Jucuaran Battalion.

c. On 19 November, in Jucuapa jurisdiction, we inflicted two casualties on the Atonal Battalion.

2. During 20 November clashes in [words indistinct] we attacked with rifle fire the installations of the military communications center in El Pacayal. Colonel Ponce himself, the chief of the death squads, has admitted that our grenades hit those installations.

d. [Letter as heard] We hit the Atonal Battalion headquarters with five 81-mm mortar grenades and the 6th Infantry Brigade headquarters with six 81-mm mortar grenades.

c. [Letter as heard] We also entered Usulutan and clashed with enemy units from the 6th Infantry Brigade and the Atonal Battalion in Santa Anita, Peralta, Santa Clara, Altos de Piedra, and Molinos neighborhoods. During this incursion, we attacked enemy positions in El Manguito, (Centro Penal), and outlying positions to the north of the 6th Infantry Brigade. We partially destroyed the (Deusen) electric substation.

d. [Letter as heard] During the clashes on 20 November, we estimated 50 enemy casualties and seized from the Oromontique Battalion four M-16 rifles and four full sets of equipment [as heard].

3. On 21 November the fighting developed as follows:

a. In Santa Elena our forces clashed with two Atonal Battalion companies. The enemy units sustained 45 casualties and fled in disarray. We had full control over Santa Elena by 1930.

b. In Osatlan we inflicted five casualties on the Oromontique Battalion and another casualty during an ambush on the Jucuaran Battalion. We estimate that the 21 November clashes resulted in 51 casualties.

4. At dawn on 22 November we attacked the Atonal Battalion headquarters with rifle fire and inflicted two casualties on the enemy units.

5. During those two days of our military campaign, we implemented intense sabotage operations against electricity transmission lines. We carried out ambushes and gained controlled of highways such as the Pan American, Coastal, Santiago de Maria, and San Miguel.

During this military campaign, the forces that defended democracy in this southeastern front inflicted 159 casualties on the enemy and seized the following war materiel: 19 M-16 rifles, two .60-caliber machineguns, three M-79 grenade launchers, two PRC-77 military communications radio sets, and a large amount of ammunition for those weapons. We can also report the heroic fall of 13 comrades in these clashes.

[Signed] Francisco Sanchez Southeastern Front

National Army for Democracy

FMLN Lists Clashes, Operations

PA2311225090 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 23 Nov 90

["War Report" issued by the Modesto Ramirez Central Front of the FMLN; place and date not given—read by announcer]

[Text] We report to all of our people and the international community that at 0300 on 20 November, we conducted a military maneuver in Chalatenango Department in the framework of the national military campaign called "Punish the Antidemocratic Armed Forces." This campaign is intended to make progress in the peace talks, garner respect for human rights, and to force the demilitarization and democratization of the country.

The campaign consists of:

1. The destruction of the military barracks in Military Detachment No. 1, Sumpul Battalion, and (El Achiote) Barracks, and the defeat of the forces located there.

2. Operations to annihilate a company from the so-called northern commando units located in the area of Las Canas and Tepeyac.

3. Attacks against positions of Military Detachment No. 1, located in the downtown and the outskirts of the city of Chalatenango. As part of this maneuver, we conducted other actions in this department, including: artillery attacks against the installations of the 4th Infantry Brigade headquarters in El Paraiso, artillery attacks against the treasury police in Las Almas shelter [Refugio Las Almas], and attacks against national police installations in Nueva Concepcion, as well as control of the local highway; ambush attacks along the detour between El Jovalo and San Rafael, and the takeover of the towns of

La Reina, Aguacaliente, Comalapa, Dulce Nombre de Maria, San Francisco Morazan, San Ignacio, and La Palma. Also included in this maneuver were sabotages against power lines at the 5 November dam on 19 and 21 November. To continue with this victorious maneuver, the guerrillas from the National Army for Democracy clashed with two Bracamonte Battalion companies, which had came to rescue Military Detachment No. 1. These companies were trying to retake positions when they were forced to flee in disarray and seek refuge at the barracks of [word indistinct] Battalion after sustaining nine casualties.

We want to inform our people about the results of this victorious maneuver:

Destruction of the barracks of Military Detachment No. 1, where the following were destroyed: the officers' casino, the ranch house [rancheria], the installations of Suchitlan Battalion, the officers' dormitory, the advisers' pavillion, the commander's office, as well as the communications center. Serious damage was also done to the Sumpul Battalion targets. All of these installations were the target of our guerrilla fire. We also took over and destroyed enemy positions in La Antena. We destroyed a small tank during clashes in downtown Chalatenango. In addition we damaged a O-2 push and pull plane in the area of Tepeyac.

As a result of these maneuvers, the FMLN inflicted 75 casualties on the forces inside the barracks of Detachment No. 1 and the Sumpul Battalion. The FMLN inflicted another 75 casualties in the areas of (El Culebrero), (El Quetzal), La Marana, Barrio San Jose, El Rastro, Turicentro, and (Bucatoro). The inflicted 23 casualties in the neighborhoods La Fatima, El Conacaste, El Instituto, La Terminal, and La Antena. In addition, we inflicted 81 casualties in the area of Tepeyac, Las Canas, and El Canyuco. Of these 81 casualties, 46 were inflicted on the northern commandos; 23 on the [word indistinct] Battalion; [words indistinct]; and nine on the Bracamontes Battalion. The FMLN also inflicted eight casualties on the [word indistinct] Battalion during an ambush.

The enemy casualties include one major, three lieutenants, one second lieutenant, two sergeants, and several corporals.

The FMLN forces recovered the following materiel: 24 M-16 rifles four light antitank weapons, 95 knapsacks, 27 military sets [equipos], and other war materiel.

During the clash in El Pital hill, our units captured Orlando Antonio Cuellar, a soldier of Military Detachment No. 1.

We end this report by informing the people that companeros Santiago, Jorge, Arnulfo, Felipe, Maggie, Marcial, Ruben, Nico, and Teatil died heroically in this struggle for demilitarization and democracy in our country. Our homage goes to them. They will always be remembered by our people as we struggle, until final victory [is achieved].

More Clashes Reported

PA2411001090

[Editorial Report] (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 23 November broadcasts 21-minutes of battle reports.

The first report says that "during clashes between 20-21 November in Apopa against the Soriano Battalion, the genocidal National Guard, and the Belloso Battalion, we inflicted 30 casualties on the enemy. Twenty-five casualties were inflicted on the Soriano Battalion, the 1st Infantry Brigade, the national police, and the genocidal national guard."

Another report says that "today, 22 November, at 0045 we attacked the San Antonio Abad electric substation with 81-mm mortar fire, but we have not yet confirmed any structural damage. Also today, at 0200, we sabotaged 10 power towers that supplied the San Antonio Abad substation. We confirm that a lieutenant of Belloso Battalion was wounded during clashes on 20 November in Nejapa."

The next military report from the Francisco Sanchez Southeastern Front says that on "21 November at 1900 militia units of the National Army for Democracy carried out an operation in outer lying neighborhoods of Berlin, and Usulutan Department, partially occupying the Milagros neighborhood." It adds that enemy troops in the area returned fire with 81-mm mortar against densely populated areas.

Another report from the Anastasio Aquino Paracentral Front informs that on "21 November, forces from our National Army for Democracy occupied a stretch of the Zacatecoluca-Tecoluca Highway near the Canas Farm where we erected a barricade with 10 trucks used in the sugar industry. Four military units in civilian clothes traveling aboard a vehicle failed to heed our orders to stop and fired at us. Our forces replied with rifle fire. We have no details on casualties." This report adds that troops of the 5th Infantry Brigade which were in the immediate area fled in total disarray after hearing the shooting.

The next report says that "on 22 November at 1700 sappers of the National Army for Democracy sabotaged seven electricity structures along the highway between the 15 November and Atachin Dam, leaving the lines completely disabled."

Another report states that on 20 December "we harrassed enemy positions in Antiguo Cuscatlan at 1730. On 21 November at 1100, we machine-gunned a national police pickup truck at Venezuela Boulevard and South 25th Avenue. We estimate that the enemy sustained three casualties. Also on 21 November at 2300, urban commando

units sabotaged power towers near Planes de Renderos. Our units left without any problem."

A military report from Santa Ana says that on 22 November at 0100, "guerrilla units blew up two power towers near San Jorge, Texistespeque jurisdiction, Cabanas Department."

The next report from the Feliciano Ama Western Front informs that on 17 November at 1900, National Army for Democracy sappers sabotaged nine power towers between Sachuapa and Santa, leaving Santa Ana, Sachuapa, Ahuachapan, and outlying towns without electricity. In the morning of 19 November another unit erected a barricade with four buses and downed two power towers in El Salitre Canton, Nejapa jurisdiction, Santa Ana Department.

A report from the Modesto Ramirez Central Front says that "between 0500-0700 on 22 November units of the National Army for Democracy occupied a stretch of the Nueva Concepcion-Amayo Highway near Netayate Farm. Traffic was paralyzed and propaganda activity was carried out with 200 people who were there."

Another report says that on "16 November at 1930 National Army for Democracy units sabotaged many power towers between Ahuachapan and San Salvador," leaving many areas in western El Salvador without electricity.

The next report informs that on 22 November at 0200 guerrilla units attacked "a enemy position of the genocidal National Guard for 15 minutes in Estanzuela, Usulutan Department. We are awaiting a confirmation on the number of enemy casualties." This report adds that on "20 November at 1730 our units sabotaged five power towers on the road connecting Santiago de Maria and Villa El Triunfo, Usulutan Department."

Another report informs that at "0230 on 21 November militia units of the National Army for Democracy ambushed a unit of Jucuaran Battalion at Jaldana Farm, San Francisco Javier jurisdiction, Usulutan Department, inflicting one casualty on the enemy." This report adds that an helicopter gunship deployed by the enemy to the area to evacuate this casualty machinegunned densely populated areas.

A report from eastern Morazan Department says that "at 1800 on 22 November an O-2 plane fired rockets against the outlying areas of Cacaopera, Morazan Department. The civilian residents of Cacaopera denounced this action."

A military report from the Francisco Sanchez Southeastern Front states that on "21 November from 1530 forces of our National Army for Democracy started an operation against two companies of Atonal Battalion in Santa Elena. During the first hours of fighting, these troops fled in complete disarray. Our forces pursued them until the late hours of the evening. We inflicted about 45 casualties on the enemy. The rest of the enemy troops fled in total disarray and our forces occupied Santa Elena."

A final report states that "at 1900 on 20 November clandestine units of the National Army for Democracy attacked a patrol near Portazuelo, in the outlying areas of Santa Ana. As a result, we inflicted two casualties on the enemy, one dead and one wounded. The attack lasted about 30 minutes. Also on 20 November, at 0815, another unit clashed with an enemy patrol in Aviles neighborhood in the outlying areas of Santa Ana. We do not yet have reports on enemy casualties."

Further Casualties Reported

PA2511010690 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Editorial Report] (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 24 November broadcasts 10 minutes of reports on battles and attacks taking place between 21 and 23 November.

The first report states that on 21 November rebel forces seized 200 quintals of coffee on the road from Chinameca to El Pacayal near Copinol. "The coffee was then distributed to the townspeople, but at the same time a patrol of the antidemocratic National Guard appeared and carried out indiscriminate attacks with M-79's, terrorizing the people."

The next report states that at 0900 on 22 November National Army for Democracy troops sabotaged three structures of the electric system in El Jocote Canton, Mercedes Umana Jurisdiction, Usulutan Department, "leaving the eastern part of the country without energy."

A report from the Francisco Sanchez Northeastern Front states that "National Army for Democracy troops took over Carolina in the San Miguel Department at 1230 on 21 November and have maintained control of the area since then."

Another report from the Francisco Sanchez Northeastern Front states that "at 1800 on 22 November a group from the Morazan Battalion moving along the southwestern side of La Ventana hill ventured into a mine field they themselves had placed." As a result of the incident the group suffered three casualties.

A report from 21 November states that "at 0700 two Morazan Battalion groups that were moving as reinforcements toward San Francisco Gotera clashed among themselves near Osicala. The soldier Cerezo Hernandez Vasquez was killed as a result."

The report also says that on that same day Beltran Luna Battalion soldiers moving along the northeastern side of San Francisco Gotera "walked into a mine field laid by their own members. The explosion killed two soldiers and wounded another three."

The next report from the Francisco Sanchez Northeastern Front states that National Army for Democracy troops attacked an Arce Battalion company "at 0730 on 23 November on the western side of El (Febuo) hill, wounding two soldiers. Also, At 0930 a Cacahuatique Battalion company was attacked and one soldier was confirmed wounded. We want to point out that during these clashes the National Army for Democracy troops suffered no casualties."

Another report from the Francisco Sanchez Northeastern Front states that at 0100 on 22 November National Army for Democracy troops took over Cacaopera and held a political meeting. The report adds that "at 1730 an Arce Battalion company was attacked near Bonito hill. We are trying to confirm the number of casualties inflicted on the enemy."

A report from the Feliciano Ama Western Front states that "at 0200 on 23 November FMLN columns attacked enemy troops in Texistepeque, Santa Ana Department." Civil defense positions in the El Calvario Church, the mayor's office, and the Texistepeque military headquarters were attacked. After 30 minutes of fighting the enemy was forced out of these positions and one civil defense member was wounded. We held control of the northern part of the city for one hour and 45 minutes and sabotaged three pylons."

The report adds that the troops of the 2d Infantry Brigade, who were near Texistepeque, did not help the troops under attack and the rebels withdrew without problems.

A report from the Modesto Ramirez Central Front states that at 0330 on 23 November "National Army for Democracy troops and clandestine militias, using artillery, attacked a Treasury Police position in El Refugio in the Chalatenango Department. No casualties have been confirmed yet."

A brief report states that, during clashes in Cuscatlan, Air Force planes seriously damaged the El Guayabo dam.

A last report states that on 22 November "National Army for Democracy troops took over Los Gramales, Los Duraznos, Los Laimes, El Mestizo, Carolina, El Empalme, Las Penas, Palacios, Filos de Palacios, Los Navarretes, La Potona, Puerta Chacha, Cerro Miguel, La Cuchilla, San Francisco, El Sapotal, Los Rosales, El Cucurucho, Sayulapa, Los Lopez, Las Marias, and Platanares in Jutiapa and Ilobasco Jurisdictions in Cabanas Department."

FMLN: Army Kills 2 'Unarmed Comrades'

PA2411214190 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Communique issued by the FMLN in Santa Ana on 23 November; read by announcer]

[Text] This is a communique released by the FMLN and addressed to the international community and human rights organizations. We hereby report and accuse:

1. At 1700 on 20 November, 2d Infantry Brigade soldiers murdered our comrades Santiago Martinez, 40, and Carlos Ernesto Mejia, 15. The unarmed comrades were traveling through the Honduritas Township, Texistepeque District, in Santa Ana Department.

2. After the murder, the antidemocratic Army soldiers took over control of the township and its surroundings to prevent the comrades' burial. Their bodies are still in the middle of the township and being devoured by animals because the soldiers are preventing the townspeople from burying the bodies.

3. The 2d Infantry Brigade soldiers are using this action to terrorize the townspeople.

4. In view of this new evidence of the criminal and inhuman nature of the Army and its fascist officers, we are inviting humanitarian organizations to mediate with fascist Colonel Humberto Gomez, commander of the 2d Infantry Brigade, so the comrades can be buried and the repression against workers can stop.

[Signed] Joint FMLN Command, Feliciano Ama Western Front.

Santa Ana, 23 November 1990.

Minister Ponce Claims Division in FMLN Ranks

PA2311225690 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1700 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Defense Minister Colonel Rene Emilio Ponce said today that the Costa Rican Government has reached an agreement with the guerrillas to suspend the armed attacks of the past few days. This morning, however, the rebels rejected any agreement that would force them to paralyze their actions. Col. Ponce said that those actions reflect the division among the ranks of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN], which are not acting jointly.

[Begin Ponce recording] [Words indistinct]. The Costa Rican Foreign Minister has been in contact with our foreign minister. They already know of the commitment the FMLN [Farabaundo Marti National Liberation Front] has made to the Costa Rican Government, based on the initiative of the presidents in Costa Rica asking the UN secretary general to adopt a personal and direct role in the problem, and to abandon this offensive which they launched on 19 November [as heard]. That is what [words indistinct] wanted. If the lower cadres of the FMLN do not agree, however, that is something else. This once again shows the great division existing in the FMLN, which can never be called an army because it does not have the necessary discipline or a well-defined leadership structure. Some want this and some want something different.

Let us us, however, view the true facts. This is not a provocation on the part of the government. The government is merely fulfilling its commitment to keep the domestic and international community well-informed.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Ponce] I believe that we should [words indistinct] Costa Rica.

[Reporter] About the recent offensive by the FMLN and the reports that are being issued, do you think we can [words indistinct]?

[Ponce] The reports that the FMLN is issuing through its publicity campaign are ironic and cynical. I believe that the government must continue the negotiation process to attain peace in our country. To say that the offensive actions by the FMLN are going to change or speed the process of dialogue is a lie. There are agreements between the government,the FMLN, and the UN mediator to bolster and speed up the negotiations.

The FMLN must justify to its combatants, however, that this attitude [words indistinct] this type of violence by the FMLN, which does not really want peace for our country. [end recording]

The defense minister said that he is optimistic, because the military operation conducted throughout the country has managed to contain the FMLN advance.

Vows Army Not To Let FMLN Take Power

PA2511185390 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 24 Nov 90 p 5

[Text] The Salvadoran Armed Forces will never let the FMLN take power through violence, Colonel Rene Emilio Ponce, defense and public security minister, said yesterday morning. Col. Ponce also reaffirmed the high morale and professionalism, "beyond all proof, of the Army," which, since Tuesday, 20 November, has been repelling a new terrorist aggression against several towns of the country.

To give an example of the Army's high morale, Col. Ponce cited the case of Captain Herrera Carranza of Military Detachment No. 4 in Gotera. Although he wears a prosthesis because he was hurt in fighting, he led a group of five soldiers to repel the terrorist hordes that attacked Gotera. Col. Ponce said that the terrorists must realize that bullets, rifles, and cannons are not going to solve El Salvador's conflict. He added that "we have embarked on a political course where reason must prevail over force."

The military chief was interviewed yesterday at the Foreign Ministry building while he was accompanying ONUCA [UN Observer Group in Central America] members that came to bid farewell to Foreign Minister Manuel Pacas Castro. At the supposed end of the terrorist offensive, Ponce said that Costa Rican Foreign Minister Bernd Niehaus told his Salvadoran counterpart that FMLN leaders had promised the Costa Rican Government that it would end the hostilities after the Central American presidents asked for the direct participation of UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar in solving the country's conflict.

"That is the official information that we have. The fact that the FMLN cadres are not going along is another matter," the military chief remarked. He noted that this situation once again reveals the deep division within the FMLN. He also said that the rebels cannot be called an "army" because they lack discipline and a well-defined structure, since the chieftains say one thing and the lower ranks do something else.

Ponce also stressed that terrorists do not have the military capabilties to take power, although they can maintain a climate of terror, panic, destruction, and death.

Government Views Damages to Basic Services

PA2411011890 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 2309 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Communique No. 6 issued by the Salvadoran Government in San Salvador on 23 November; read by announcer]

[Text] The San Salvador metropolitan area and other parts of the country have had serious problems with their electrical services and drinking water supply because of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] terrorist offensive. Thousands of people have been suffering for the past few days because of the lack of electricity, and what is even worse, the lack of drinking water.

The cruel sabotage of the FMLN terrorist groups, as part of their offensive against the Salvadoran people, has destroyed many structures in the electrical system and provoked an energy crisis.

The FMLN's terrorist groups, without caring in the least for the lives, families, or communities, have caused great damage to the national electrical system, whose repair will require several days of hard work by the Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission [CEL] at a cost of several million colones.

The recent attacks by the FMLN terrorists against the Salvadoran people have caused millions of dollars worth of losses throughout the country because the shortage of electricity directly affects the production of the industrial, business, and service sectors. The loss will also affect drivers who will have to wait in long lines and take detours to get to work. The energy shortage also affects professionals who are forced to stop their activities. It causes great hardships in government activities and hinders important transactions by Salvadoran citizens.

The most serious harm that the FMLN terrorists have inflicted on the country is that they have cut off a major portion of the drinking water supplied by the National

Administration of Waterworks and Sewers [ANDA]. This action is affecting men, women, children, and the elderly because they do not have water for food preparation or their personal needs.

ANDA's personnel are working overtime to restore the potable water service in the affected areas. These efforts, however, are beset by technical problems which are not easy to resolve quickly because the FMLN's sabotage has damaged the pumps and electrical equipment. This damage is difficult to repair or replace on short notice. The ANDA administration has pledged to work hard to restore the potable water service as soon as possible.

The Salvadoran people, who, with their high morale, have faced and repelled the FMLN's recent terrorist offensive are more and more determined every day to peacefully defeat the FMLN terrorists' armed and violent offensives.

Every time it is difficult to obtain food, or the hospitals are filled with sick or wounded people, or the citizens suffer the irreplaceable loss of loved ones because of the FMLN's evil, the people will point an accusing finger at the FMLN for being responsible for trampling on their most basic human rights.

CEL's Perez Favors Military Response to FMLN

PA2511203390 San Salvador Radio Cadena Horizonte in Spanish 1800 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] CEL [Rio Lempa Hydroelectric Executive Commission] President Colonel Sigifredo Ochoa Perez has come out in favor of a military response to the actions staged by the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] in the past couple days. Ochoa Perez said that what the guerrillas want is to break off the negotiations, which is the opposite of what the government wants. The Salvadoran Government wants to achieve a political solution to the conflict.

The retired soldier reiterated that the rebels want to seize power through political means. He said that its only obstacle is the Armed Forces; therefore, the rebels want to abolish the Armed Forces in both the political and military spheres, something that the Armed Forces must not permit, Colonel Ochoa Perez stated.

[Begin Ochoa recording] According to the FMLN and judging by its actions, the only solution they seek is a military solution. This shows that there is a contradiction within the FMLN. There are those, such as Jorge Shafik Handal, who want to resolve this conflict through political means. We have seen, however, that even Shafik's life had been threatened by the most radical groups, like Villalobos' followers. This shows that the military and warmongering line of the FMLN is the one that prevails. We have seen that they are moving away from the path of dialogue, the political path, which is what the government and the Armed Forces are considering. The response must be a military response. The Armed Forces definitely cannot remain confined to quarters; it cannot stay with crossed arms simply because they are going to say: Oh no, the Armed Forces are violating rights. It must fulfill its mission, and we Salvadorans must support the actions of the Armed Forces and the government. [end recording]

Colonel Ochoa Perez said that it is worrying to see how the guerrillas are responding to the flexibility shown by the government to progress in the negotiations. In his opinion, this reflects the domination of a warmongering sector in the guerrilla's general command. In this context, Ochoa Perez criticized the humanitarian organizations which are supposed to defend human rights and other similar ones which criticize the government's actions, but which are silent regarding the guerrillas' violations.

[Begin Ochoa recording] I ask myself at this moment, where are the humanitarian organizations? Where are the organizations that claim to defend the people?

Why are they not questioning the FMLN? Why are they not questioning the UNTS [National Union of Salvadoran Workers], UNOC [National Union of Christian Workers], and a host of quote religious unquote groups that come here and enter the country as if this were who knows what? Our country has dignity and sovereignty. Religious and professional groups that claim to be comprised of attorneys come here to study our justice system.

I believe that now is the time to put things in perspective. Everyone should be called what they are. Everything has a limit. We are sovereign and our country cannot allow anyone to come here to talk in the name of human rights of the leftists or of the FMLN terrorist and facade groups. [end recording]

For Col. Ochoa Perez, the factor preventing the government and Armed Forces from acting more harshly are human rights, which he said have tied down the hands of the military. As for the announcement of the establishment of the FMLN's National Army for Democracy, Ochoa Perez said that it is a joke and nothing more than propaganda.

His statements were made during a news conference in which he reported on the damage caused to the power plants by guerrilla sabotage operations in the past few hours. According to a CEL report, 36 structures of 115,000 volts and three of 46,000 volts were damaged. It was also said that CEL is spending about one million colones each day to operate emergency plants.

This morning, seven percent of the population was without electricity and in the eastern part of the country the service will be rationed by 23 percent during the day and 20 percent in the evening.

Guatemala

Rios Montt Refuses To Support Runoff Candidates

PA2411183890 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 17 Nov 90 p 4

[Text] Neither Harris Withbeck Pinol, my running mate in the past elections, nor I will directly support either of the two candidates participating in the runoff elections, General Jose Efrain Rios Montt said yesterday.

He added: We will not support them because we have a case pending against the Guatemalan Government. With the Supreme Electoral Tribunal's approval, we have prepared an order for a criminal investigation to be presented to the international courts because I was illegally deprived of the right to participate in the elections. We will go to court so that Guatemalans will realize that they made a mistake. We will go to court whether they agree with us or not.

The Guatemalan system has failed in its democratic efforts. The Guatemalan Government has failed the nation because the candidate of the majorities was not allowed to register. Rios Montt added: The thing about all of this is that the Guatemalan Government must understand that you simply must not play games with the nation or the people because you then lose your authority. This is why we are saying goodbye to Christian Democracy today. Vinicio Cerezo has said that maybe in five years ... but no way. In five years, he will be unable to do anything.

This is very important. Our moral authority remains unalterable. We will continue to fight. We will go to international courts and see what we can do. We will not support any one candidate. The political parties are free to do so, however, because they want their institutions to support a presidential system capable of resolving the problems of Guatemala, Rios Montt said in conclusion.

MAS Candidate Forms Alliance With MLN

PA2411175790 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 20 Nov 90 p 3

[Text] Guatemala City, 20 Nov—Engineer Jorge Serrano Elias, presidential candidate for the Solidary Action Movement, MAS, met at the party's headquarters with the department directorate board members, who officially approved the MAS' alliance with the MLN [National Liberation Movement] to bolster Eng. Jorge Serrano Elias' candidacy.

The MLN leaders and directorate board members said that the two sectors have fully agreed on this and share the same views. Thus, the meeting confirmed the decision to support Jorge Serrano Elias' candidacy.

During the event to announce the MLN's support for the MAS candidate, MLN leader and vice presidential candidate Engineer Luis David Eskenassy talked about Eng. Serrano Elias. He said that they did not expect the country's problems to be solved immediately because the nation has no money and international aid is needed to rectify the situation.

Engineer Luis David Eskenassy said that they supported Eng. Serrano Elias "without imposing any conditions; this was confirmed by Mario Sandoval Alarcon."

Eng. Jorge Serrano Elias recalled old times with his friend, Mario Alarcon, who is also a family friend. Serrano Elias recalled when he and his father, Jorge Adan Serrano, struggled together to achieve a unity of thoughts and goals after 1950.

Serrano Elias said: I cannot forget the times when I saw Mario Sandoval Alarcon in action. Guatemala owes Mario Sandoval Alarcon more than what Mario Sandoval Alarcon owes Guatemala, Serrano Elias emphasized. Guatemala owes Mario Sandoval Alarcon much more because he brought peace to the country, Serrano Elias insisted.

Eng. Serrano Elias met with the MLN directorate board, which was led by Secretary General Mario Sandoval Alarcon; presidential candidate Colonel Carlos Ernesto Sosa Avila; and vice presidential candidate Luis David Eskenassy.

The parties supporting Eng. Jorge Serrano Elias include that of Benedicto Lucas Garcia. Other parties are also expected to support him, according to the presidential candidate himself.

Former DCG Candidate Returns From Hospital

PA2411233590 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 23 Nov 90 p 3

[Text] Alfonso Cabrera Hidalgo, former presidential candidate for the Guatemalan Christian Democracy Party (DCG), returned to the country last night after a three-week stay in the Methodist Hospital in Houston, Texas, because of a pancreas ailment.

It is noteworthy to point out that Cabrera has recovered well, despite the numerous rumors that circulated about the true nature of the illness afflicting the DCG secretary general.

When asked about the general elections, Cabrera stated that they had been democratic and were good for the democratic process.

"The performance of Jorge Serrano Elias at the polls was a real political surprise. Whatever the outcome, however, we will accept the verdict of the people," said the former presidential candidate in a broken voice.

"On 23 November I will return to the party and hold a meeting with the directorate, President Cerezo, and other groups to evaluate the recent electoral process and discuss who we might give our support to," added Cabrera.

He also pointed out that his recovery will take some time and that he will have to return to the Methodist Hospital in Houston for a check-up within three months.

After waiting for two hours and experiencing numerous obstacles, local and international reporters found it necessary to force their way into the airport's VIP lounge.

Refineries Start Rationing Fuel Due to Shortage

PA2411183790 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 20 Nov 90 p 2

[Text] Jaime Corrales, a gas station owner, reported that the country's refineries started rationing fuel on 19 November due to a crude oil shortage. They stopped making deliveries for orders placed last week, forcing many gas stations to close early.

In a telephone interview, Carlos Grajeda, supervisor of the Texaco refinery in Escuintla, said that the refineries had indeed stopped operations due to a crude shortage. Grajeda said, however, that he had received an order on 19 November to resume refining with the refinery's crude oil reserves.

Another gas station owner said that most of the gasoline and diesel fuels, which are the most widely used fuels for transportation, was brought from the refinery in Puerto Barrios, resulting in the deterioration of the road going to the town.

Leaders of the Gas Station Owners Association said that they did know about the rationing by the country's fuel distributors but added that they will make a statement on 20 November.

Sources at the Energy and Mines Ministry reported that Minister Raul Castaneda went to Venezuela and Mexico last week to negotiate new petroleum deliveries for the country. He returned on 18 November. The sources said nothing, however, about the rationing by the refineries.

URNG Releases Bulletin on Recent Actions

PA2311205990 Guatemala City SIGLO VEINTIUNO in Spanish 17 Nov 90 p 6

[Text] A war bulletin released by the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity [URNG] and surreptitiously sent to our office has reported on several military actions that were carried out in the past few days. The bulletin emphasized that "dialogue means struggle, not surrender."

The clandestine URNG bulletin claimed responsibility for acts of sabotage against electricity poles, the harassment of Guatemalan Army units, and the attack on the "Santo Tomas" presidential farm on 2 November.

The rebel group also claimed responsibility for the occupation of several towns and obstruction of traffic on various roads in the country's interior to hold political rallies and convey a message to the people.

Nicaragua

H. Ortega Denies Sending FMLN Missile

LD2511155390 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] [First announcer] General Humberto Ortega, the head of the Sandinist People's Army, has said that the long-range missile with which Salvadoran guerrillas brought down a military aircraft last Friday did not come from the Sandinist People's Army, as the Government of El Salvador implied.

[Second announcer] It is totally untrue that this missile was a Sandinist one, Gen. Ortega said during the visit to Nicaragua by Spanish Defense Minister Narcis Serra. According to the Salvadoran Government, the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] has SAM-7 and SAM-14 missiles sent by the Sandinists, who were in power until last April.

Chamorro, Humberto Ortega Meet Spain's Serra

LD2411234890 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Excerpts] Spanish Defense Minister Narcis Serra has held talks in Managua with President Violeta de Chamorro, and with the commander in chief of the Sandinist People's Army, General Humberto Ortega. One of Narcis Serra's concrete missions is to take to the Nicaraguan Government Spain's economic support for the reduction of the forces of the Sandinist Army. But the scope of the Spanish minister's visit is more extensive: it is a question of achieving closer ties with Managua. The Nicaraguan authorities see in Spain a suitable defender before the international community, so as to obtain the financing which the democratization of the country needs. Our special correspondent in Managua, Jose Manuel Martin Medem, reports. Good evening.

[Martin Medem] Good evening. The Nicaraguan Defense Minister [as heard] General Humberto Ortega, has asked Spanish [Defense] Minister Narcis Serra for our country to promote the international cooperation which Nicaragua needs to consolidate democracy through economic stability. Narcis Serra.

[Begin Serra recording] The Spanish Government is very conscious of the delicate situation in Nicaragua, of the economic difficulties it is going through, and of the need for us to mobilize to support this country in lifting its economy and consolidating its democracy. [end recording] [passage omitted]

[Martin Medem] Narcis Serra met Humberto Ortega after having talks with President Violeta de Chamorro. The Spanish minister called her the president of reconciliation. Violeta de Chamorro also commented on the possibility of greater cooperation between the governments of Nicaragua and Spain.

Spain Reportedly To Train Officers

LD2511154290 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 0800 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] Today Defense Minister Narcis Serra, who is visiting Nicaragua, will visit the members of the Spanish Armed Forces in the UN forces. The defense minister has indicated his readiness to send further forces to Haiti if the United Nations requests this, if this can help with holding elections. Narcis Serra has already had talks with President Violeta Chamorro and received the requests of the Sandinista leaders. Our special correspondent in Managua, Jose Manuel Martin Medem, reports. Good morning.

[Medem] Nicaraguan Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo will travel to Spain next week, probably on Thursday [29 November], and the head of the Sandinist People's Army could visit our country in April or May next year. Those are the dates proposed by General Humberto Ortega after Narcis Serra's invitation, made public during a brief speech last night—dawn has just arrived here in Managua—over dinner at the residence of the Spanish ambassador in Nicaragua.

In their speeches, without microphones, Ortega asked Spain to cooperate so that Nicaragua is not forgotten in Europe, and Serra offered the Spanish Government's cooperation for the consolidation of democracy in Nicaragua. In a brief reference to the sending of Spanish military forces to the Persian Gulf, Defense Minister Narcis Serra said the Spanish Government must collaborate so that the UN resolutions will be fulfilled, as a guarantee that there are no more violations of international law or disruptions of the Spanish economy like those caused by the Gulf crisis. Serra added that Spain is a country which, insofar as it is resolving its internal problems, aims to project itself internationally to cooperate in world peace. Giving the exampie of the presence of members of the Spanish Armed Forces in the UN group of observers for Central America, Minister Narcis Serra also said that the government wants our Armed Forces to be an effective instrument of peace.

General Humberto Ortega, head of the Sandinista People's Army, said that the United States is still unable to understand Nicaragua; but in spite of everything, Nicaragua is winning for itself the right to be helped, and they hope for Spanish cooperation to promote help from all Europeans who have called for democracy in Nicaragua.

In defense cooperation between Spain and Nicaragua, there will be military advisers from our country. Spain will train Nicaraguan officers, and the possilility of Spain cooperating in the organization of a military academy here in Nicaragua is being studied.

Serra on Sending Military Advisers

PA2511230990 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1457 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Report by Andreu Claret]

[Text] Spanish political-military sources have disclosed that the Spanish Government is studying the possibility of sending military advisers to Nicaragua to contribute to the reorganization of the Army.

Spanish Defense Minister Narcis Serra, who ended a three-day visit to Nicaragua today, said that the ministry under his charge will analyze the Chamorro government's request to send some Spanish officers to Nicaragua.

Serra, the first foreign defense minister to visit Nicaragua since Chamorro's electoral victory, stated that the Spanish Government wants to "strengthen ties" with Nicaragua on defense matters by "cooperating in the professional transformation" of the Sandinist People's Army (EPS).

EPS Chief General Humberto Ortega asked the Spanish minister "to strengthen military cooperation in the non-lethal area."

Gen. Ortega, who will visit Spain soon, requested that Serra send Spanish officers to give advice on the creation of a Nicaraguan military academy, according to sources close to the meetings he had with Serra.

During the civil war years when the EPS faced the "contras," who were supported by the United States, Nicaraguan officers were trained in Cuba, the USSR, and other countries of the former socialist bloc.

The signing of a peace treaty and Chamorro's victory in the last elections have led to a drastic reduction and reorganization of the EPS, which has been reduced from 90,000 to 28,000 members.

Spain will help implement these changes by donating $5 million, which will be used for the professional reclassification of 5,000 Nicaraguan officers who will go into "retirement" before the end of the year.

Lieutenant General Francisco Veguillas, general director of the Defense Police, who accompanied Serra on his visit, confirmed to ACAN-EFE that the possible dispatch of military advisers "will be examined" by the Defense Ministry, although he said that Spain will proceed "with caution."

Lt. Gen. Veguillas added: "We will study the possibilities of training command cadres by increasing the number of scholarships we give and perhaps by sending officers to Nicaragua to assist in setting up an academy."

Veguillas, who maintains "permanent contacts" with EPS Chief of Staff General Jaime Cuadra, is responsible for the 59 Spanish officers who have formed part of the UN peace contingent in Central America for the last year.

Lt. Gen. Veguillas denied that the military cooperation will include arms deliveries, "because they have enough Soviet weapons."

The Spanish Government has already decided to appoint a military attache to Managua, Nicaragua, who will be responsible for all Central American countries.

Currently, a Spanish Army captain and a Civil Guard officer are offering guidance on the creation of a rural mounted police aimed at preventing the rustling of Nicaraguan cattle.

Serra said that the decision of the Spanish Government to begin military cooperation with Nicaragua, which was made possible by the end of the war and Chamorro's victory, was part of a larger program intended to help other Central American countries.

Serra, who will travel today to Honduras, expressed his willingness to "work with all countries to complete a coordinated program."

Sources in the delegation accompanying Serra have pointed to the present international detente that has made the Spanish initiative possible, after a decade during which the United States, the USSR, and Cuba supported conflicting forces or governments in Central America.

Obando y Bravo Calls for End to Violence

PA2311175990 Managua Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Passages in italics are recorded]

[Text] Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo has evaluated the first seven months of Violeta Barrios de Chamorro's government. He has admitted that there have been achievements which have benefitted the nation but stressed that there are still many goals in the government's platform that must be fulfilled.

Obando y Bravo said that more jobs must be created to overcome the major crisis the country is experiencing.

[Obando y Bravo] *A country that is paralyzed by strikes and where citizens do not work cannot progress. The events in June and July and the most recent events do not give us a positive image abroad. This is not good because a country cannot progress without work.*

Cardinal Obando y Bravo described the way the government handled the Aristides Sanchez case as a political mistake.

[Obando y Bravo] *I believe that his expulsion was a political mistake because our image abroad will not be favorable and will not encourage economic assistance.*

He called on all Nicaraguans to end violence and solve problems through dialogue.

[Obando y Bravo] *Violence creates more violence. Nicaraguans must realize that with violence we will not pull Nicaragua forward. Violence has left many youths in wheelchairs. It has destroyed the country's economy. For example, I think that 11 years ago the exchange rate was 10 cordobas. I believe the rate is now 1.85 million. This is serious. We must love Nicaragua and seek the homeland's common well-being. Let us work because through work we can bring progress to our homeland, which is small, but great in the dreams of Nicaraguans.*

The cardinal's call to end violence is an invitation to reflect on events, to prevent bloodshed among brothers, and to seek new ways of achieving national reconciliation.

Former Contras Form New Civic Organization

PA2511173290 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1610 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] Managua, 25 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—Today, more than 3,000 former contras announced that they have established a new civic organization separate from that of their former leaders. One of the organizers of the new group said that their former leaders had only defended their personal interests.

"We have organized this new group so that former contras can see that they do not have to continue being used or manipulated by anybody," stressed Jose Hernandez Lopez, the leader of the new organization.

Hernandez was referring to former rebel leaders Israel Galeano and Oscar Sovalbarro. He feels that these two former "contra" leaders have not tried to solve the situation of the former combatants who demobilized in exchange for land, food, and participation in government institutions on 27 June.

Israel Galeano, the former anti-Sandinist military leader, has charged that Sovalbarro, who now heads the "Nicaraguan Resistance Civic Organization" [Organizacion Civica Resistencia Nicaraguense], has taken advantage of the former contras' terrible situation to get "a piece of the pie" from the government.

Hernandez reported that already two cities in the eastern and central part of the country have joined the new anti-Sandinist organization and elected directors.

According to official sources, the former "contras" demobilized on 27 June and approximately 5,000 have been given land in the northern and central areas of the country.

RN's Aristides Sanchez Accuses Lacayo, Hurtado

PA2611001490 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Communique issued by former Nicaraguan Resistance (RN) member Aristides Sanchez Herdocia in Miami on 22 November—recorded; read over the telephone by his wife, Cecilia Rodriguez de Sanchez]

[Text] Today, Thanksgiving Day, I wish to thank God I am alive, free, and close to my family. I also want to thank a number of people who through their tireless efforts succeeded in getting me freed. I want to especially mention my wife and His Eminence Cardinal Miguel

Obando y Bravo. Now that I am free, I am able to report that the repressive Sandinist system remains unchanged. There are the same jails, prison guards, torturers, and scientific methods of psychological torture.

President Chamorro is a well-intentioned Christian woman, and I have no doubt that she yearns for the well-being of all Nicaraguans. I firmly believe she is not told of all the horrors taking place in the state security prisons. As the leader of all Nicaraguans, as a mother, and as the widow of a man who once was jailed where I was, I call on her to investigate the fate of the political prisoners in the Sandinist jails.

Although she is kept unaware of what is happening, I hold Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo and Government Minister Carlos Hurtado both responsible for events. I accuse them of being accomplices in the Sandinist barbarism. They cannot avoid their responsibility for the continued Sandinist repressive apparatus.

Regarding the letter I signed accusing Nicaraguan politicians of involvement in a destabilization plot, I unequivocally declare that I signed this document without being in full control of my mental faculties. I was tortured into signing the letter after suffering (?horrible) psychological torture for three days caused by the constant threats by my jail guards, and without being in the company of my lawyers. To obtain these false accusations, the Sandinist security, who are Government Ministry accomplices, used clumsy and shameful methods, techniques started at the [passage indistinct].

I categorically state that at no time, to my knowledge, has Vice President Dr. Virgilio Godoy, Managua Mayor Arnoldo Aleman Lacayo, or Deputy Azucena Ferrey held any meeting whatsoever with any RN members. Notwithstanding, my interrogators repeatedly asked about this during the brutal questioning I was subjected to, pressuring me to confess that these meetings had taken place. My mention of this in one of the letters is strictly due to the fact that my interrogators demanded this.

If ministers Lacayo and Hurtado intend to deny the existence of the repressive Sandinist jail system, I am prepared to travel to Nicaragua to visit with them the gloomy cell I was kept in, and to point out my torturers. If my health prevents me from traveling right away, I invite them to visit the jails accompanied by Amnesty International's Dr. Lino Hernandez, Human Rights Commission member Dr. Martha Patricia Baltodano, a delegate representing His Eminence Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, and the International Commission of Support and Verification, CIAV-OAS. It is essential that ministers [words indistinct] as soon as possible with the proper witnesses, to save the lives of my comrades who are still in jail. [passage indistinct].

Fellow RN members and all Nicaraguans of good will who share the ideal of a just Nicaragua, as long as God gives me life and strength, I shall continue our struggle. I hope to overcome my heart illness soon, and to once more rejoin my beloved Nicaragua. My hope is that all Nicaraguans are reconciled. If I have offended someone with my stance, I beg forgiveness. My behavior has been for the sake of Nicaragua's peace and reconciliation.

[Signed] Aristides Sanchez

South Miami Hospital

22 November 1990

'Negotiating Commission' on Takeover of Town

PA2311161190 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1341 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Communique issued by Macuelizo Negotiating Commission in Macuelizo on 23 November]

[Text] The negotiating commission of Macuelizo Municipality hereby notifies the Nicaraguan people of the actions that have taken place since Thursday, 22 November 1990:

1. At 0810 on 22 November, Macuelizo Municipality was peacefully taken over, without any loss of human life.

2. Later on, peace commissions such as CIAV [International Commission of Support and Verification], OAS, and ONUCA [UN Observer Group in Central America] visited the site, where at 1030 a list of demands was presented to them. Following the visit of the international organizations, a negotiating commission was formed with Porfirio Maldonado, Sergio Bustamante, (Sean Colindres), (Atenor Ponce), and (Olin Ponce). At the request of the people, Ramon Ariel Blandon Lang was appointed spokesman for the negotiating commission.

3. The persons we are holding are being treated with due respect for their human rights, but we will not negotiate unless a commission assigned to this effect visits the area. Through the CIAV-OAS, we have negotiated with some military personnel whom we are holding, including one policeman and two soldiers. We want to hold a dialogue in a civic and civilized manner to reach an agreement.

4. We also want to announce that we completely control several municipal offices and are holding the officials hostage.

5. We are holding 23 persons, who will be released once the negotiations are held and progress is made.

Issued in Macuelizo Municipality at 0545 on 23 November 1990.

[Signed] (Olin Ponce Caceres), community leader.

Panama

Linares on New Round of Legal Aid Treaty Talks

PA2311144190 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 22 Nov 90 p 2-A

[Report by Manuel Alvarez Cedeno]

[Text] Foreign Minister Julio Linares has announced that a new round of negotiations to discuss the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty with the United States could begin in December in Panama City. Linares reiterated that Panama will not sign a treaty that will harm its interests.

Linares said that the second round of negotiations will probably be held in December, when Panama will present its counterproposal.

For obvious reasons, as he put it, the high-ranking Panamanian official did not wish to provide details about the contents of the Panamanian counterproposal.

Linares reiterated, however, that the counterproposal "fully" emphasizes Panama's determination not to negotiate matters that go against the interests of the country.

"This position is our goal and our guide," the foreign minister said, adding that our country will not change its negotiating team, which is headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Mulino.

Panamanian businessmen have questioned the U.S. proposal because they feel it will endanger the powerful national banking system, which is made up of approximately 110 national and foreign banks.

Linares Discusses Cuba, Mexico, U.S. Treaty

PA2411032590 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 22 Nov 90 pp A-1, A-12

[Report by James Aparicio]

[Text] Foreign Minister Julio Linares has ruled out the possibility of normalizing diplomatic relations with Cuba and added that the country will not yield to alleged Mexican pressure to obtain safe-conduct for [former National Bank Director] Rafael Arosemena, who has taken refuge at the Mexican diplomatic mission.

As for the deterioration of our relations with Havana over the past 11 months, Linares said that "at this time I see no possibility of normalizing relations with Cuba."

In March, Panama expelled Cuban Ambassador Lazaro Mora and later reduced to a minimum that country's diplomatic delegation in protest of Cuba's position toward the Panamanian Government, which was elected in the 7 May 1989 elections and installed after the U.S. military intervention on 20 December of the same year.

As for the alleged Mexican proposal to resume supplying petroleum to Panama in exchange for safe-conduct for Arosemena, Linares pointed out that "the Foreign Ministry will not yield to that kind of pressure."

Mexico and Panama have maintained a low level of diplomatic contacts for the past 11 months and the situation was worsened when President Endara said that Mexican Foreign Minister Fernando Solana was talking "rubbish" [pendejadas] and described the government of Salinas de Gortari as the product of "sheer electoral fraud" committed by the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party.

As for the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty, Linares said that negotiations with a team headed by Michael Kozak, principal deputy secretary of state for Inter-American Affairs, will resume in the first weeks of December.

The treaty, whose signing has been rejected by broad commercial, legal, and political groups, seeks to investigate bank accounts linked to drug trafficking and corporations that may be evading taxes in the United States.

Panama agrees to fight money laundering, but rejects the fact that the treaty would allow the investigation of corporations for infractions [faltas] that are not considered crimes in Panama.

Linares explained that there are differences regarding the "application of the treaty," and added that it will not be signed if there is evidence that it harms the "Panamanians' basic interests."

Spanish Report on Drug Cartels' Fronts in Country

PA2311232390 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 19 Nov 90 p 1-A

[Text] Panamanian lawyers and businessmen have established corporations and appear as board members of corporations which, according to Spanish authorities, were used by members of the Medellin and Cali drug cartels.

A recent report issued by Spain's State Attorney General Javier Moscoso on drug trafficking in Spain states that several Colombian drug lords who made investments in Spain, like the head of the Cali Cartel, Gilberto Rodriguez Orejuela, and Jorge Luis Ochoa, have several "front" enterprises in Panama.

Moscoso's report adds that in 1984 Ochoa purchased property in Spain through Titania Belt, a Panamanian corporation, and a farm in Andalucia through another Panamanian corporation, Genuine Investment Service, Inc.

An investigation at the Panamanian Public Registrar's Office, carried out by EL PANAMA AMERICA reporters, disclosed that Genuine Investment Service, Inc. was established on 30 May 1984 by a lawyer named Fonseca and a businessman named Espino, and is registered under Public Deed No. 7,997.

Titania Belt, the other corporation owned by Jorge Luis Ochoa was initially established by Spanish citizen Carlos

Perez Almillano on 8 October 1980 and is registered under Public Deed No. 9319.

Foreign Debt With Paris Club Refinanced

PA2511013490 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 21 Nov 90 p 1A

[Report by Maricarmen Sarsanedas]

[Text] Panama has succeeded in refinancing $175.36 million due the "Paris Club," of which $104.2 million are principal and $71.16 million are interest payments, which are current or overdue.

According to a report given by Deputy Comptroller General Jose Chen Barria, the creditor countries of Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Italy, Sweden, and the United States decided to recommend that their governments accept 10 successive and equal biannual payments, starting after the grace period deadline of 15 January 1997.

Chen Barria explained that the creditor countries agreed to include a "good will" clause in the agreement, which provides that they meet with Panama after March 1992 to consider the overdue debt, so that if for any reason Panama cannot comply with the agreement it can review its economic situation and renegotiate the debt.

The agreement also obliges the Panamanian Government to pay the servicing of that debt which remains overdue and unpaid up to November 1990—some $16.6 million—and stems from loans and credits granted since 1985 by countries such as Spain, France, the United States, and the United Kingdom.

Arias Calderon Warns Workers Not To Strike

PA2511163490 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 24 Nov 90 p 1A

[Report by Nubia Aparicio S. and Zoila Rodriguez Jovane]

[Text] When LA PRENSA asked Panamanian Vice President Ricardo Arias Calderon what measures he will take as minister of government and justice regarding the march that government employees have announced for 4 December and the strike they have announced for 5 December to demand compliance with a 13-point document—the most important of which seems to be the payment of the 13th-month bonus—Arias Calderon reminded everyone that he has promised to enforce the Constitution and bylaws. He warned public employees not to leave their work sites and said that, if they do so, he "will have to enforce the law." He added: "I mean it. The law will be strictly enforced."

The Administrative Code stipulates that public employees must not leave their work sites. Article 297 of the Constitution stipulates, among other things, that "public workers are bound to personally carry out their duties to the best of their abilities..."

After expressing his desire not to reach the point of having to enforce the law, Arias Calderon said that it is currently impossible to pay the 13th-month bonus, not because it is not the workers' right, but because the country's social and financial needs are so great that the government must deal with them on a priority basis. Arias thinks that the first thing that must be established is a genuine respect between top government leaders and public workers.

The minister pointed out that the public workers are not abstract beings but people without which the country cannot function. "I start from this positive viewpoint. At the same time, however, I am aware of a reality that I must be very frank about. We are in no position to pay the 13th-month bonus because of the country's serious shortcomings that were handed down to us by the dictatorship and that must be dealt with on a priority basis."

Ricardo Aleman, president of the Chamber of Commerce, said the businessmen's greatest concern is that infiltrators take advantage of the march—called for by the Coordinating Committee of Government Workers Unions—to loot and destroy again.

Aleman, the mouthpiece for the organization that comprises approximately 1,100 businessmen, pointed out the fear that events similar to those that took place after 21 December will occur again. There is also concern about confrontations because of the presence of a large number of armed guards in front of stores. "The mere mention of a suspension of public transportation and the announcement that whoever does not support it will have to suffer the consequences carries a hint of violence that worries the people," Aleman said. He asked the police to beef up its security on 4 and 5 December because of the announced protests.

Asked about the reasons for the strike, Aleman expressed complete disagreement with the forceful measures adopted by the public workers union leaders and criticized the support of the private sector's organized groups for the strike, a support "that has no reason to exist."

He added that the Panamanian private sector is still experiencing difficulties during its recovery and has seen its demands to reform the Labor Code defeated. This is not exactly the best time for the public sector to add to the confusion.

Aleman said that the instability created by the announcement of the demonstration somehow affects investments and negates the possibility of creating jobs for hundreds of thousands of Panamanians who have swelled the ranks of the jobless.

Regarding the public workers, he said that it is very remarkable that the same leaders who backed General Manuel Antonio Noriega in the infamous Tanara meeting after the foiled 3 October coup attempt are now the leaders of a strike to pose demands on the government.

Aleman said that "there must be a dialogue to find a way to pay the 13th-month bonus, or at least part of it, in the near future." He also said that the possibility of temporarily substituting bonuses for this special payment will be considered.

The businessman said that a radical policy paralyzes investment and ruins the opportunity to create a greater number of temporary jobs, which increase during December when the volume of sales increases.

Commerce Chamber President on Upcoming Strike

PA2311180090 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 20 Nov 90 pp A1, A2

[Report by Hermes Sucre Serrano]

[Text] After saying that the national strike scheduled for December will have a negative impact on the economy and foreign investments, Ricardo Aleman, president of the Panamanian Chamber of Commerce, Industries, and Agriculture, warned that if unexpected looting occurs there will be bloodshed which will bring mourning to the entire Panamanian family.

Aleman stated that just the possibility that the strikes and work stoppages may lead to violence paralyzes the economy and has a negative impact on investors who want to establish businesses in Panama. "Foreign companies want stability and tranquility," he reiterated.

When asked about the possibility of damages to local businesses, Aleman said that given the experience of December 1989 some businessmen are afraid that a new wave of looting may occur. The Public Force should be ready, therefore, to prevent damage to private businesses, and the labor leaders should seriously consider the possibility that infiltrated individuals may try to force their actions to go out of control, he added.

Aleman said: "Panamanian businessmen are armed; we are concerned that the possibility of future incidents may result in a bloodbath, which will in turn fill the hearts of Panamanians with sorrow."

Aleman was referring to the 24-hour strike scheduled for 5 December, which may be extended, by the largest private and public labor unions to demand compliance with a list of labor demands.

Aleman said that there are leaders in the labor movement who belonged to the previous regime, and they are trying to hinder the government's plans and the country's economic recovery.

The business leader stressed that a dialogue must be reestablished with the mediation of the president. He urged government and private sector workers to understand the country's real situation and the difficulties in meeting their demands.

He said that the mere fact that the international public hears that there are going to be strikes in December has a negative effect on the investors interested in establishing assembly plants in Panama. How do workers think we are going to solve the unemployment problem, Aleman asked.

"The Chamber of Commerce and the private sector in general oppose any means of force in demanding alleged rights, and they support a dialogue," he stressed.

Jailed Noriega Officers Ask for 'Justice'

PA2311201490 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1545 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Report by Andreu Claret]

[Text] Panama City, 22 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—Thirty-seven military officers who served under General Manuel Antonio Noriega and who have been in prison since the U.S. invasion 11 months ago have signed a document claiming that the military principle of "due obedience" applies.

The document, to which ACAN-EFE had access today, stresses that "the defendant should be given the right of having the principle of due obedience be applied, even in cases of murder," if the murder was committed upon orders from a superior officer.

Colonels Marcos Justines (former Chief of Staff) and Guillermo Wong (former Chief of the Security Services), Lieutenant Colonels Carlos Arosemena King, Rafael Cedeno, and Luis Cordoba, and Majors Manuel Sieiro and Felipe Camargo are among those who signed the 19-page, handwritten document.

The document was delivered to Panama Archbishop Marcos McGrath, and is in reply to a statement made in August by a reconciliation commission headed by McGrath which proposed granting amnesty except in cases of common crimes, like embezzlement, torture, or murder.

Several of the signers are accused of "common crimes" because of accusations presented by civilians who were victims of the outrages committed during the Noriega regime. Noriega was ousted by the U.S. invasion and taken to the United States, where he is awaiting trial for drug trafficking.

For example, Lt. Col. Cordoba is accused of having ordered the murder of Hugo Spadafora, who opposed Noriega, and Major Camargo is accused of torture.

The officers are insinuating that Noriega is ultimately responsible for everything that happened. They claim that the "immediate superior" who gave an order carried out by a lower-ranking officer "received the order from a higher civilian or military authority."

Hundreds of officers were arrested and questioned after the invasion. Of these, 45 are still in the Renacer Prison near the capital city, according to the families of some prisoners. Until now, none of them has stood trial.

The officers claim that "the moment has arrived for a true reconciliation" in the country. They assert that they are willing to "help in the consolidation of democracy."

The officers say, "Our military careers ended on 20 December." They admit that "the Defense Forces committed many mistakes, abuses, and arbitrary actions."

Juan Materno Vasquez, defense counsel for Col. Virgilio Mirones, who was released several months ago and against whom there were no charges of common crimes, said that his client "will be acquitted because he obeyed orders from his superior," in this case Manuel Solis Palma, who was president of Panama at the time.

Materno Vasquez said that the judicial branch "does not want to hold the trials because many of the officers who have spent months in prison will be acquitted."

The wife of one of the majors under arrest said, "Our husbands are prisoners of war," and as such they were visited by the International Red Cross at the beginning of their imprisonment.

The Panamanian military officers were captured by the U.S. troops during the invasion, and later turned over to Panamanian authorities.

The woman, who asked to remain unidentified, complained of the slowness of the legal proceedings. She said: "We want justice to be done soon, and that bail be fixed according to the law."

The officers who signed the letter argue that "many of the common crimes we are accused of had political origins or motivation." They criticize the position adopted by the reconciliation commission in this aspect. They also claim that "the principle of being presumed innocent until proven guilty is being violated, and the presumption of guilt prevails." They criticize the confiscation of their properties by the authorities.

Endara Rejects Request for Pardon

PA2511212490 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 25 Nov 90 p 48B

[Report by Juan Pritsiolas]

[Text] President Guillermo Endara said, "I have not considered (granting) any pardon" to former Noriega officers. He labeled the letter they sent to Archbishop Marcos McGrath, claiming that the principle of "due obedience" applies to them, as a ploy to "get off the hook for the crimes they committed."

"I do not think anybody is thinking of a pardon, and I do not consider that letter as a request for a pardon," Endara said in an interview broadcast on Circuito RPC Radio. During this interview he expressed his views on the note signed by 37 officers under former General Manuel Antonio Noriega, who are at El Renacer Prison.

Endara felt that the former officers' request constitutes a way to "defend themselves, as is to be expected in a democracy." The officers claim that Article 34 of the Constitution and Article 35 of the Penal Code should be applied in their case, because the articles establish that the immediate superior is to be held accountable when he instructs his subordinates in the Public Force to commit an action that constitutes a punishable crime.

Several Panamanian law experts have rejected this interpretation of the two articles, stating that no law can exonerate the perpetrators of criminal acts. Attorney General Rogelio Cruz said that the due obedience exemption must be supported by written proof or the testimony of witnesses.

President Endara also turned down the former officers' offer to support Panama's democracy, noting that these "individuals have done grave harm to democracy." When they serve their time, they can exercise the right to support the country's institutions, he remarked. In the aforementioned letter, the former officers hint that Noriega should bear the responsibility for the abuses and crimes committed in the previous regime.

Among those signing the letter are: Luis Cordoba, Felipe Camargo, Nivaldo Madrinan, Marcos Justine, Manuel Sieiro, Rafael Cedeno, Guillermo Wong, Daniel Delgado, Cleto Hernandez, Carlos Arosemena King, Lucinio Miranda, Ramon Diaz, Benjamin Solis, Francisco Avila, Everardo Quiel, Aristides Cordoba, and Lenin Miranda.

On another topic, Endara said he felt that the influence his advisers have over him "has been exaggerated." They assist me in "everything" I do, but I make the decisions, and I should be held liable for the consequences, he remarked.

CNTP: Goverment Hindering National Dialogue

PA2611032690 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 25 Nov 90 p 16A

[Report by Yasmina Reyes]

[Text] The National Federation of Panamanian Workers [CNTP] has issued a communique criticizing what it describes as the government's intransigent attitude and denying reports linking labor leaders to the military regime. The CNTP stresses its support for the agreements made by the National Council of Organized Workers (Conato) and for the plan to put pressure on the government that will culminate with a march on 4 December and a nationwide strike on 5 December.

In its communique, the CNTP notes that the objective of their actions is to obtain recognition and respect for the rights of workers and to have their demands for a national dialogue heeded. The CNTP Executive Secretariat reiterated its charge that the arrogance of government officials frustrated their efforts to establish a serious dialogue in reaching a national agreement.

"The CNTP censures that irresponsible attitude and publicly holds Second Vice President Guillermo Ford

and the Molirena [Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement] responsible. Instead of contributing to social peace, they are pushing the people to a confrontation and to violence of unforeseen consequences," it states.

The communique, signed by Secretary General Ruben Caceres and Propaganda Secretary Edwin de Leon, states that the organization "supports dialogue and decries confrontation and violence. It is aware of the serious crisis that is besetting the country, aggravated by the criminal 20 December invasion, and that a national understanding is the only way to save the nation."

The labor union accuses the government of "terminating the dialogue before it began, turning down the workers' requests, negotiating the interests of the nation behind the peop[illegible]'s back, and implementing (sic) the IMF and World Bank economic model. It is clear that the government officials care very little about the interests of the nation and have no respect for workers. We cannot accept this situation under any circumstances."

Argentina

Menem Comments on Gulf, Thatcher, Bush Visit

PY2511223590 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1140 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] La Rioja, 25 Nov (NA)—President Carlos Menem has said that, for the time being, he is not considering sending more troops to the Persian Gulf and that a peaceful solution, in his opinion, will be "very difficult."

In an exclusive interview with NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS, Menem said that the Argentine Government would like to see "a peaceful solution to the conflict, but the way things are [words indistinct] a solution without the use of arms."

Menem said: "The siege and embargo is being enforced to prevent a war and give the aggressor a chance to withdraw." The president noted that the UN embargo, which is being "enforced by thousands of men surrounding Iraq on the ground, in the air, and in the sea, is aimed at finding an alternative to an armed confrontation."

Menem said that the resignation of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher "will not change British foreign policy, which will continue as usual."

Menem noted that "she is a woman who fulfilled a very important role in the new Great Britain, and her resignation is proof of her worth because she understands that her time has passed." Menem stressed: "Her resignation shows her greatness in this political world. No one can deny her merits."

Regarding U.S. President George Bush's visit to Argentina, Menem said that they will discuss "bilateral relations, agricultural subsidies—which put Argentine producers at a disadvantage—Bush's proposal for a continental free- trade zone, Latin American integration, and the present international situation."

The president recalled that "the exclusion zone was lifted when we resumed relations with the UK" while the "foreign policy of the Radicals [Raul Alfonsin's Radical Civic Union government] encouraged Great Britain to extend its jurisdiction around the Malvinas Islands to 200 nautical miles and to move freely in Argentina's territorial waters." Menem said: "The Radicals did aosolutely nothing to prevent this economic aggression" by Great Britain.

Menem said that Argentina currently "maintains excellent relations with all countries in the world." Proof of this, Menem pointed out, is the fact that he was "the first Argentine president to have a chance to talk on equal footing with the presidents of the two great powers just 40 days apart," referring to George Bush and Mikhail Gorbachev.

Menem stressed that the leaders of the two world powers "received Argentine assurances on topics over which they had doubts," such as "the Condor-2 project, which was authorized in 1986 by a decree signed by [former President] Alfonsin and which we halted, because Argentina cannot afford to produce weapons that cannot be used."

Menem concluded by saying that he postponed his trip to Europe this December because "it was not the right time. In February we have to travel to Davos, Switzerland, and we can then visit other countries," such as Italy, Spain, France, and Germany.

Cavallo Hopeful on Fishing Agreement With UK

PY2311152490 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1328 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Nov (NA)—Argentine Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo has said that he is optimistic about the negotiations that UK and Argentine representatives will begin in Madrid today on the subject of fishing control in the waters around the Malvinas Islands. Cavallo said: "It would be unadvisable for either the UK or Argentina to get involved in any unilateral decisions that could lead to a confrontation."

Cavallo emphasized: "I believe there will be progress; by no means will there be any backward movement." Although he described the status of the talks as "very difficult," Cavallo announced that he will meet his UK counterpart Douglas Hurd in London next week to "tie up any loose ends left unresolved" by the representatives of the two countries currently meeting in Spain.

The foreign minister said the Argentine Government was not planning to resort to the United Nations if the Madrid talks failed. He emphasized: "Our position has always been to deal with the fishing issue at the bilateral level. We will continue to work like this with the great help of the sovereignty umbrella, which allows us to maintain our claim intact."

He added: "As far as fishing goes, there is no point in going to the United Nations because the only issue we have taken to the UN General Assembly is the sovereignty dispute (over the Malvinas)."

Cavallo said that during the new stage of talks in Madrid "we would like to see if we can reach a cooperation agreement on fishing in an area over which both countries are claiming the same rights."

Speaking to Radio Mitre, Cavallo recalled that "Argentina claims a 200-mile maritime jurisdiction. What we are discussing now is how we can cooperate, within the framework of the sovereignty umbrella, to prevent third parties from taking advantage of the situation and depredating fishing resources."

The minister also said that the dialogue with London "had never been severed or broken; it just went through a kind of stagnation. Fortunately, Hurd and I have been able to find a way to keep it going."

Cavallo stated that he will meet with Hurd next week during his trip to London to sign an agreement that will guarantee investments. Cavallo hopes to "tie up all the loose ends" left by the two countries' negotiators in Madrid on that occasion.

Cavallo on Progress

PY2411223290 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2146 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Nov (DYN)—Argentine Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo has revealed that, after two days of talks in Madrid, Argentina and the UK have reached a "preliminary agreement" on fishing in the area around the Malvinas Islands. The Argentine Foreign Ministry made this information public in a communique released in Buenos Aires today.

The foreign minister stated that the working group made up of Argentine and UK representatives "made good progress and obtained good results," adding that the agreement that was reached "will be submitted to the two governments" next week for approval or rejection.

This preliminary agreement was reached eight years after the war between the Argentines and the British over the possession of this southern archipelago.

Organizations Plan To Protest Bush Visit

PY2411212090 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1940 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Nov (DYN)—On 5 December a group of political and social organizations will stage a march to repudiate the presence of U.S. President George Bush in Argentina.

Under the slogan "Arise Argentines," participants in the march—which is being organized by socialist Deputy Simon Lazara and former Justicialist Party spokesman Jacinto Gaibur—will gather in front of the Obelisco [a monolithic monument in downtown Buenos Aires] on the afternoon of 5 December to march toward Congress. On 26 November Lazara and Gaibur will begin meeting with various political, labor, and human rights organizations to invite them to join the protest against Bush's visit.

According to the organizers, the protest is prompted by the fact that Bush "represents an imperialistic policy that seeks to bring our Latin American countries to their knees." They added that "even though certain ministers and government officials are allowing this, we Argentines will stand upright and show them once again that the example of San Martin, Bolivar, Sandino and Marti, among others, is still alive."

The organizers concluded by saying: "Just as the peoples have repudiated the political yoke, we will not accept economic subordination which, under the guise of adjustments, simply impoverishes our people more and more all the time."

Bolivia

Nestor Paz Zamora Terrorist Group 'Broken Up'

PY2311170590 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1506 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] La Paz, 23 Nov (EFE)—It was officially reported here today that the Bolivian Police have broken up the terrorist commando group responsible for several terrorist attacks this past October and the kidnapping of a prominent industrialist six months ago.

The people who have been arrested belong to the Nestor Paz Zamora Committee (CNPZ), an ultraleftist group that bears the name of Bolivian President Jaime Paz Zamora's brother, who died while participating in a guerrilla movement in 1970.

Official sources told EFE that among the detainees is the commando member who on 10 October killed a Bolivian policeman and planted a bomb at the door of the U.S. Marine house. The Marines are responsible for guarding the U.S. Embassy in La Paz.

Interior Minister Identifies Bombing Perpetrators

PY2411140890 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] In a news conference held at the Interior Ministry building, Interior Ministry officials have given detailed information on the investigations into the kidnapping of Engineer Jorge Lonsdale and the attack on the U.S. Marine House.

Interior Minister Guillermo Capobianco said that both incidents have been completely clarified and that there is categorical evidence proving the involvement of the Nestor Paz Zamora Committee [CNPZ] in these incidents.

Capobianco added that the CNPZ was originally known as the National Liberation Army [Ejercito de Liberacion Nacional], or the ELN. This is the same name used by a group which was very active in Bolivia a few years ago. The ELN had its so-called baptism of fire with the kidnapping of industrialist Lonsdale on 11 July. But on 11 October it used the name Nestor Paz Zamora Committee to perpetrate the attack on the U.S. Marine house and the monument to John F. Kennedy.

Interior Minister Capobianco also said that the authorities have been unable to locate Lonsdale or his kidnappers. But, he added, since there is [words indistinct] the situation is being clarified.

Capobianco stated that four active CNPZ members have been arrested and that authorities are therefore in a position to exchange prisoners.

[Begin Capobianco recording] We are willing to do anything to get Jorge Lonsdale back safe and sound. [end recording]

Moreover, based on the testimony of the arrested persons, Interior Minister Under Secretary Raul Loayza gave a detailed account of the Lonsdale kidnapping and the attack on the U.S. Marine house.

He said the CNPZ is headed by Miguel Northtufster, [words indistinct] a neofascist of Italian-German origin. He added that Northtufster, who is still at large, also poses as a priest.

Using pictures, Loayza identified [names indistinct] (Luis Caballero); (Augusto Sayes); (Osvaldo Espinoza), who was wounded in the attack; (Julio Sebastian Acazu Sigue Parada); (Jimena Nora), fiance of (Acazu Sigue); and (Fausto and Alan Missiply), or (Miccheli). Loayza showed the media some of the detainees and identified others who had also been arrested, including (Serafin Elvis Vargas Guerrero), (Marcelo Oliva), (Maria Mercedes Nava Morales), and (Carlos Pacaje Solis).

Interior Ministry officials have said that the continuing investigations will lead to a definitive solution of the Lonsdale kidnapping. They added that suspects [words indistinct] will continue to be arrested.

Also present at the news conference was Lonsdale's [words indistinct], who requested Amnesty International [words indistinct] solidarity to help achieve his father's release.

Acting Supreme Court Chief Justice Installed

PY2411024690 La Paz Television Boliviana Network in Spanish 0030 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Excerpt] The judges who have not been charged with violation of the Constitution and the laws this morning installed Dr. (Hugo Salvatierra Oporto) as acting Supreme Court chief justice during a ceremony in the Bolivian capital, where the judicial branch is headquartered.

Chuquisaca Senator Jose Luis Carvajal Palma reported on the swearing-in ceremony:

[Begin Carvajal recording] I believe that designation of the acting chief justice has allowed the Supreme Court to resume operation. The signatures that the former Supreme Court justices registered at the banks—particularly the signature of Edgar Oblitas [former chief justice]—have been invalidated. This means that those signatures are no longer authorized. Dr. (Salvatierra) will assume full duties as chief justice until the Senate completes its study of the charges of violation of the Constitution and the laws. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Brazil

President Fernando Collor Addresses Nation

PY2211014090 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2150 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Address to the nation by President Fernando Collor on 21 November; place not given—recorded]

[Text] My dear fellow countrymen: Once again, we are urged to comply fully with the duties of a people living in democracy and to vote in the gubernatorial runoff elections in several Brazilian states. This is an opportunity to meditate together on our lives and our country's situation. Throughout the electoral campaign, I have remained impartial and have not taken part in the disputes in various states because this is how the president of the Republic must behave if he wants to respect the ethics of his position. Today, however, I want to answer for you all a question that a housewife who was asking for advice on how to act during the elections asked me. Her question was: Mr. President, who do you support, what side did you choose? I now take this opportunity to answer this question: The president is where he has always been. He chose the side of the workers, of the Brazilian family, of the most humble ones, of those who have always suffered and have never possessed anything.

You have seen that this administration has been working tirelessly for 12 and 14 hours a day—frequently without weekends and holidays—in order to be able to fully comply with its promise to be on the side of most of the Brazilians, to fearlessly confront the powerful, and to boldly fight past privileges. This is why we have been attacked. This is why we have been the victims of machinations and slanders that sought to confuse the people and defame us. The people, however, have never played the fool, and my government has never yielded to the pressures exerted by any group. Quite the opposite, in eight months, in less than a year in office, we can show concrete results of our administration, particularly in the social area. Take good notice of that—in less than a year in office.

You know the chaotic situation that the country was in when we took power. The economy was in absolute disorder. The people had no more confidence in the government. There were only problems, doubts, debts, more debts, and everything else to be rebuilt. You remember all of that well. You do not have to make too much of an effort to remember all of that.

Now, think about everything that has already been achieved. Brazil is recovering credibility abroad while domestically, it is recovering its enthusiasm. We now have more than hope. We have confidence and a certainty that we are treading the correct path. We cannot, however, rush ahead and make precipitous decisions. We cannot yield to the temptation of adopting temporary solutions under the illusion that they will help us. No, my fellow countrymen, we must persevere, we must maintain this rhythm because we are implementing a program that has been approved by each one of you and that is the best. This program is the compass leading us to the secure port of prosperity and social well-being. Nevertheless, this is not all that we will do. We will do more than that and will continue to seek better and better solutions to the problems of an ever increasing number of people. With patience and firmness, we will reach our goals.

You know we cannot solve all of the problems of all Brazilians in such a short period of time, but you can demand a serious administration, a responsible administration that does not make promises it cannot comply with—an honest, hard-working administration. You know that this is the type of administration we already have. We have been working and have been achieving our goals. We have been building cheap homes and settling thousands of families. We have already repaired 14,000 kms of highways. Never before has Brazil invested so much in the health sector. We have actually invested 44 percent of.... [Collor changes thought] Only this year, we invested 800 billion cruzeiros in the health sector. We just launched the largest literacy campaign ever implemented in this country. We have disbursed 200 billion cruzeiros for immediate use in loans for the agricultural sector. Some people, however, still complain. Please notice that these resources for the agricultural sector loans represent—in real terms—106 percent more than the amount disbursed last year. They represent more than twice the amount disbursed in 1989.

My fellow countrymen: We will continue to work. Despite all difficulties, we will disburse more funds for use in loans for the agricultural sector and will thus support the farmers who deserve the government's utmost respect and concern. This is the first administration with programs specifically for children, adolescents, and seniors. Our unrestricted respect for human rights is part of our everyday life. We have received international praise for our efforts to preserve the environment and for our support of the rights of our Indians. We have implemented a broad deregulation program that has made the lives of the citizens easier and has put an end to cartels. Without oligopolies, competitiveness between companies increases, prices go down, and you benefit.

For the first time in our history, we refused to sacrifice our national development to pay the foreign debt. We are opening our economy to, finally and definitely, include Brazil among the other First World countries. We have taken firm steps toward a national accord and deepened the dialogue with Brazilian society. Almost everyone has understood our proposal for free negotiation. The government is always alert and will give the salary issue the appropriate treatment. Despite all the difficulties, we will pay a Christmas bonus to all Brazilian retired employees.

We cannot, we must not forget that inflation is our worst enemy. We have fought inflation relentlessly and will continue to fight this evil—this illness that has been contaminating our national life for over 30 years. We have defeated the ghost of hyperinflation and of monthly inflation rates that were over 90 percent. We did not succeed in doing more than that for reasons that were beyond our control, and because a small minority insists on not believing in Brazil. Neither you nor I could have foreseen the Iraqi crisis and the huge increase in oil prices as a result of this crisis. Pay attention to these figures: Before the crisis, Brazil imported $300 million in oil. After the crisis, we began to spend more than $600 million for oil each month. This is twice what we were spending.

My dear fellow countrymen: In a short period of time, we began to spend twice as much to purchase the same amount of oil. What is the result of this situation? The price of fuel goes up, transportation becomes more expensive, and prices for all products somehow increase. We did not expect this crisis just as we did not expect to see some unpatriotic Brazilians continue to readjust prices abusively and make higher profits than those made anywhere else in the world as if this was a way of defending themselves from inflation. In fact, their behavior is the main cause of inflation.

Despite all that, you are all invited to hold a national dialogue and reach agreements. The most important thing, my friends, is Brazil. We have never said that the path we chose would be an easy one. We cannot defeat 30 years of inflation easily, nor do it in six days or six months. This task requires courage, firmness, patience, and of course, everyone's cooperation. Inflation only survives when people believe in it and feed it. We can say the same of its demise. If all of us believe that it will end, inflation will end. This administration has been acting firmly and will continue to act firmly and prudently. This is what the people expect from us and I will not frustrate those who have deposited their hope in me.

We are fully engaged in reconstructing our nation. It is as if we were all facing a destroyed home and decided to unite to build a new, better, and more solid home out of the ruins. One of us will design the home, the other will bring the cement, another will prepare mortar while someone else will lay a brick. Thus, we will work side by side—all on the same side—everyday. You know very well, however, that there are those who work and those who can only criticize. They criticize and criticize and do nothing but spoil other people's work. The worst thing about these people who are always criticizing is that when they have to work, they do not know how to. In the moment of consolidating our national life, of overcoming difficulties, we need understanding, friendly people who can cooperate and help us rebuild the country. No more gratuitous adversaries, no more of those who oppose everything without realizing that they are not opposing us, opposing you or me, but opposing the new Brazil.

As you know, the president does not work alone. He works and converses with the other branches, with the judicial branch and especially, with the national Congress in pursuit of a consensus, of a common denominator; in short, the government works side by side with the Brazilian people. I have been watching the people participate in national life, demand their rights, say no to abuses, and refuse to be exploited.

I hope, my dear fellow countrymen, to find new partners in those who have been elected, and in the governors that you will now elect. I hope they will support our work—

your work—in favor of national reconstruction. You can help make this hope come true. I am sure you will help it come true. We will never be alone because we are fighting a common fight, because we have the common ideal of, firmly and jointly, contributing to building the new Brazil. This Brazil will be modern and effective and will support all efforts toward international peace.

This is the path we chose. On our journey, there will be no losers because, through our efforts and with God's help, we will all be winners. Good night and thank you very much.

Government Supports EEC Proposal on Gulf Envoy

PY2311140090 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Brazilian Foreign Minister Francisco Rezek has reported to Iraqi Ambassador to Brazil Qays Tawfiq al-Mukhtar that the Brazilian Government supports the EEC proposal to send a special UN envoy to Baghdad to find a peaceful solution to the Persian Gulf crisis. Al-Mukhtar noted that the Brazilian Government continues to support all UN decisions. [sentence as heard]

Chile

'Concrete Results' Expected From Bush Visit

PY2411010690 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] The Foreign Ministry had a busy day today preparing the working agenda for U.S. President George Bush's 23-hour visit to Chile. The agenda for the visit, which is scheduled for 6 December, covers the 23 hours during which Bush and his main State Department advisers will stay in Chile.

The Foreign Ministry has practically concluded selection of the topics to be analyzed. There are three major issues: the [words indistinct], the Kennedy amendment, and Chile's rejoining of the Generalized System of Preferences, GSP.

The main Foreign Ministry advisers have remarked that the economic and political teams are working with a view toward implementing a broad revision of bilateral relations.

Christian Democratic Party lawmaker Guillermo Yunge, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, expressed optimism over the possibility of solving some of the main pending issues with the United States. Yunge referred to the visit by Bush who, as is known, has advocated lifting the various restrictions that now mark Chilean-U.S. bilateral relations. The most important of these restrictions is the Kennedy Amendment. Other restrictions are the [words indistinct] and the exclusion from the GSP. Yunge said Bush's visit can help solve major bilateral issues.

[Begin Yunge recording] What I said is that some of the main pending problems in our bilateral relations should be solved during President Bush's visit. I believe that a great deal of work is being done toward this objective, both in Chile and in the United States, and I am optimistic in this regard. [end recording]

Political scientist Claudio Vazquez, chief of the foreign minister's cabinet, told us that the U.S. President's visit is not merely a formal act, adding that it is expected to yield results. He made this remark amidst the intense activities at the Foreign Ministry. Vazquez said that the talks with State Department representatives will not be noisy, but will go right to the point. Bush's visit, he said, should yield very concrete results.

Rojas To Give Congress Information on CNI

PY2511220490 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Defense Minister Patricio Rojas said today that he will provide the National Congress with all the necessary information on charges made by Deputy Carlos Dupre against former members of the CNI [National Intelligence Center] who have been reassigned to the Army.

Rojas said that, in debating the Army budget, he explained to Congress the reasons why the government proposed the reassignment of many CNI employees to the Army after the CNI was dissolved. Rojas pointed out that the reasons were explained in a closed-door meeting and that he wanted to keep the information confidential.

Rojas also referred to the situation of the Lo Curro Presidential House, which the Army used again yesterday to celebrate the birthday of General Augusto Pinochet. He said that this property is the Presidency's responsibility and that the government will decide on its use at the appropriate time. He noted that there is no rush to make that decision.

Rojas Evaluates Relations With Army

PY2411004290 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Defense Minister Patricio Rojas stated that following the reorganization of the Army high command relations between the government and Army have returned to a period of normalcy and cooperation.

I would say that a period of normalcy and cooperation has been achieved. Undoubtedly, this ministry must be and will be the appropriate channel for the coordination and preparation of defense policies.

The minister added that all Armed Forces institutions are cooperating with him, and he feels that he is their representative in the political sector and the appropriate authority for that.

Minister Rojas made these remarks upon receiving the new commander of the Santiago Military Garrison, Brigadier General Guido Riquelme Andaur, who is also commander in chief of the 2d Army Division.

Gen. Riquelme said that at the meeting with the defense minister, they discussed several matters, including the minister's role and his as a Chilean general. He said they discussed matters related to the security committee, an organization of which he will be a member. When asked whether the case prompted by General Parera was overcome, he said categorically that he does not speak about politics. I only speak about military matters, he said.

Colombia

Baker Arrives in Bogota, Meets Jaramillo

PA2411134890 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1247 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State James Baker arrived in Bogota at 0705 today. He immediately went to the Foreign Ministry, where he is currently meeting with Colombian Foreign Minister Luis Fernando Jaramillo Correa to discuss his visit and the U.S. Government's consultations with Third World countries about the possibility of armed action in Iraq because of the invasion of Kuwait.

Narino Presidential Palace sources announced that at approximately 0800, James Baker will go to the Presidential Palace to meet with Colombian President Cesar Gaviria Trujillo. Strict security measures have been adopted at the Presidential Palace as well as throughout the Bogota downtown area, particularly along 10th, Jimenez, and 7th Avenues, which are completely closed to traffic and people.

Visit Part of 'Diplomatic Offensive'

PA2411210590 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1759 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] The U.S. diplomatic offensive has arrived in Colombia. U.S. Secretary of State James Baker arrived this morning in Bogota seeking our government's support at the UN Security Council to authorize military intervention in the Persian Gulf.

Colombia's stand on the Persian Gulf crisis and a possible military intervention is clear and precise. We must resort to all political and diplomatic means to get Saddam Husayn out of Kuwait.

Secretary of State James Baker arrived very early this morning in Colombia. He was coming from Cairo and leaves at noon today for Malaysia, as part of a diplomatic offensive to obtain the necessary nine out of 15 votes from the member countries in the UN Security Council to intervene militarily in the Gulf.

During his short meeting with President Cesar Gaviria and with Foreign Minister Luis Fernando Jaramillo, the secretary of state stated that we must confront Saddam's aggressiveness. Baker did not rule out the use of force, because, he said, that is the only language Saddam understands.

[Begin Baker recording, in English, fading into Spanish translation] But perhaps the best way to achieve a peaceful solution, as I have described, is that of not ruling out the potential use of force. It may be the only language Saddam Husayn understands. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Colombian Foreign Minister Jaramillo emphasized in the news conference that there is a need to work toward a peaceful solution.

[Begin Jaramillo recording] This is one of the basic goals we all seek: The peaceful solution of conflicts. Naturally, Colombia cannot accept that international order and international law have been disrupted by the use of force. [end recording]

While Secretary of State James Baker continues his tour seeking votes in favor of a military intervention in the Gulf, Colombia has promised to carefully analyze the resolutions which will be presented at the UN Security Council before casting its vote.

'Peaceful Means' in Gulf Crisis Supported

PA2511145990 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1223 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] Bogota—The Colombian Government has reiterated that a solution to the Persian Gulf crisis must be found, exhausting all peaceful means, with the legal instruments contained in the UN Charter. A communique issued by the Presidency during the visit by U.S. Secretary of State James Baker stated that it was agreed to seek help from the international community to achieve the unconditional and immediate withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait.

For this purpose, a consensus will be sought which will allow the use of the necessary means to accomplish this goal. In conclusion, President Cesar Gaviria expressed his gratitude for the consultations that took place during the visit to Bogota by the U.S. official. He pledged to work with the U.S. official in drafting the most appropriate policies so that peace can return to the Persian Gulf.

'Imminent' Armed Action Rejected

PA2411231390 Paris AFP in Spanish 2117 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Bogota, 24 Nov (AFP)—Colombia has refrained from supporting the United States regarding an imminent military intervention in the Persian Gulf, but did not discount it for the future if all diplomatic negotiations are exhausted.

U.S. Secretary of State James Baker talked in Bogota today with Colombian President Cesar Gaviria, who

told Baker that a resolution of the crisis should be sought by exhausting all peaceful means and in the framework of the UN Charter's legal instruments, according to an official government bulletin.

After the meeting, which lasted little more than an hour, Baker, in a news conference, declined to confirm whether Gaviria would support an immediate military operation in the Middle East. Asked about the matter, Baker only said: "The United States and Colombia share similar views on the crisis."

In addition, Baker stated that President George Bush still does not have the consensus of the UN Security Council for a military offensive aimed at dislodging Saddam Husayn from Kuwait.

"I would like to say I have always believed that the votes should not be accounted for before they have been cast in the ballot boxes," Baker said. He also said that in a few hours he will meet with the Malaysian foreign minister and that the United States will also consult with Cuba to ascertain the stands of these two countries.

Colombian Foreign Minister Luis Fernando Jaramillo, who said that Colombia's foreign policy is based on the principle of a peaceful solution of the conflict, stated: "In this particular case, Colombia will study the situation carefully and make the necessary decisions in case the Security Council meets. Colombia will also study the resolutions presented for discussion."

Although the foreign minister flatly declared that Colombia "cannot accept the disruption of order and the violation of international law by the use of force," newspaper reporters believe that the diplomatic language used by Jaramillo hints that Colombia does not support a short-term armed action in the Persian Gulf.

Foxley Recovers, Discloses GATT Proposals

PY2311223290 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Finance Minister Alejandro Foxley has recovered from a health problem that resulted in his hospitalization for kidney stone treatment. He talked to the press to report on the main issue discussed by the economic team today.

Foxley said the government has defined its position on the proposal it will make at the GATT meeting in Geneva in about ten days. The GATT meeting will serve to define the basic guidelines that will regulate international trade in the next decade.

Foxley said the Chilean position is based on three aspects. First, Chile will offer to reduce its consolidated tariff so that a reduction of tariffs and restrictions can be obtained. Second, Chile will propose negotiation of the position on agriculture held by the Cairns Group, of which Chile is a member, because it openly contradicts the position of the EEC, which has made an unsatisfactory offer to reduce subsidies. Third, Chile will propose a liberalization of services. Along with this, Chile will provide copies of its patent law so other countries can become familiar with it. On foreign investment, the Chilean position is to not discriminate against it or impose restrictions that prevent investment.

[Begin Foxley recording] Through these proposals we want to show the coherence of a mature economy, an economy that has been able to negotiate with banks to return to the voluntary market of international credits, an economy that has a high level of reserves because it is attracting a large amount of foreign capital. We want to convey that Chile advocates the liberalization of trade by making a positive contribution to this issue in the upcoming GATT negotiations. [end recording]

Asked about oil prices, Foxley said fuel prices will be regulated through the oil stabilization fund being debated in Congress.

Extraditables' Conditions for Surrender Conveyed

PA2311165990 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Attention, we have a report on a memorandum that has hit the country like a bombshell. The Notables sent a memorandum to the president of the Republic announcing that there are between 200 and 300 drug traffickers willing to turn themselves in, provided they are treated as political criminals. Also, for the first time ever, the Notables are requesting that The Extraditables be given the status of political criminals in exchange for their surrender.

Let us see what this explosive communique says:

In a surprising document, The Extraditables announced today that they are willing to turn themselves in to Colombian authorities en masse. This would involve a group somewhere between 200 and 300 persons. Justice Minister Jaime Giraldo Angel immediately responded with a letter that answers each and every one of the conditions stipulated by The Extraditables.

The Extraditables said that the conditions for confessing their crimes, imposed by government decrees, violate provisions contained in the Constitution. The minister explained, however, that they do not have to confess all their crimes, only a few, because the government only foresees legal mechanisms for those with whom the law has accounts to settle.

The Extraditables added that the same holds true for the practice of informing on other criminals as a way to plea bargain. They say it would be unnecessary because all of The Extraditables will surrender en masse. The minister said that such a practice is not a necessity for seeking the benefits of the new extradition provisions, but it can certainly be used to get a reduced sentence.

The Extraditables demanded that they not be extradited based on the Supreme Court ruling. The minister stressed that those who voluntarily turn themselves in will not be extradited.

The Extraditables demanded that they all be confined in one place where they will have the protection of the Armed Forces and the supervision of international human rights organizations. The minister offered to keep them detained in decent jails which will guarantee the protection of the drug traffickers who turn themselves in.

The Extraditables stated that drug trafficking is a sui generis crime that is not included in Colombia's penal code. Consequently, they ask that this fact be taken into consideration. To this, the minister said: The procedural norms that will be applied to the drug traffickers who turn themselves in will be the same norms currently being applied in cases involving the so-called secret judges. This will also ensure the protection and security of the judges trying these particular crimes.

The Extraditables' document concluded by stating that, once the drug trafficking and narco-terrorism activities end, the factors that are disrupting the nation's activities will also have ended.

It is significant that the justice minister failed to mention the Notables' request that is included in the last part of their memorandum. They ask that drug trafficking be treated as a political crime, arguing that it is a collective crime and not an individual one. Consequently, the drug traffickers should be treated differently from the way they were treated when this activity was viewed strictly as a personal venture.

This is the most significant point in The Extraditables' document; namely, their demand that drug trafficking be treated as a political crime. Now it is up to the government to decide.

Extraditables Announce Truce for 9 Dec Elections

PA2311213390 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1728 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] In a communique released in Medellin today, the Extraditables announced a truce for the 9 December elections. The communique of the Extraditables contains the following points:

1. On the occasion of the coming elections for the national constituent assembly, they will declare a truce, during which they will perpetrate no terrorist actions related to drug trafficking so that people can elect their representatives freely.

2. They are sure that the constituent assembly will create mechanisms to defend and protect the human rights and strengthen civilian power.

3. They are fully satisfied with the announcement made by Prosecutor Alfonso Gomez Mendez, saying that he will look into all reports filed with his office that are connected with the violation of human rights.

4. They will release the hostages if the human rights of the Extraditables and their innocent relatives are respected.

5. The Extraditables have asserted that their movement is a clandestine political-military movement and they do not mention personal names in their communiques or announcements to the media.

6. They said they have not made any contacts in Santa Marta regarding the release of the kidnapped journalists.

23 Officials of Attorney General's Office Resign

PA2411140790 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1216 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] A total of 23 officials from the Office of the Attorney General have resigned before Attorney General Alfonso Gomez Mendez, after stating that they are convinced that various groups of the nation do not recognize their investigative functions and seek to undermine the state of law. Among the officials that have resigned are the deputy attorney general, the general, private secretaries, and the most important delegates of the Office of the Attorney General. The officials stated that they identify totally with the reasons given by Attorney General Gomez Mendez in his letter of resignation to President Cesar Gaviria.

Peru

Central Bank President Calls for Foreign Support

PY2511005890 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 11 Nov 90 p A 7

[Report on interview with Central Reserve Bank President Jorge Chavez Alvarez by un identified EL COMERCIO reporter; place and date not given]

[Text] To overcome the current serious imbalances abroad and recover lost economic growth, two things are necessary: a "serious and rigorously well-implemented" stabilization program and "foreign support."

"If one of these two things fails, the scheme for reincorporation of Peru into the international financial community will not work," Central Reserve Bank President Jorge Chavez Alvarez told EL COMERCIO.

Chavez made these comments shortly after the IMF mission headed by Martin Hardy returned to Washington after finishing the first part of negotiations on the "reference program," which is the first step toward "reincorporation."

[EL COMERCIO] What problems still require a solution in negotiations with the IMF?

[Chavez] "So far, there have been more agreements than disagreements. We admitted that we have not paid certain debts, agreed to implement a serious program, and promised to honor our foreign debt. The creditors must admit the need to modify the terms of current contracts within the framework of a mutual understanding on implementation of an overall refinancing scheme for the payments that have not been honored and for those that will become due."

[EL COMERCIO] Is an agreement with the IMF unavoidable? Many people have been suggesting that we only reach agreements with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and leave the agreements with the IMF and the World Bank for later.

[Chavez] "Evidently, there is some misinformation here. All of the creditors—official and private—and potential investors are waiting for us to reach an agreement with the IMF before talking to us or granting us loans. As a result of IDB President Enrique Iglesias' recent trip, we learned that it is unlikely that the IDB would ignore previous IMF agreements."

[EL COMERCIO] What is the advantage of paying these organizations?

[Chavez] "Once it has been decided that they will be paid, it is the responsibility of the negotiators to do their best to defend the purchasing power of the people and economic agents, and to find ways of increasing the savings of the official and private sectors."

[EL COMERCIO] What do you think of salary indexation?

[Chavez] "If we intend to fight inflation, we must give up the idea of salary indexation. Salaries must be fixed in relation to future inflation."

Terrorists Murder Leading PPC Official

PY2411114090 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Excerpt] A column of presumed Shining Path terrorists have brutally murdered agronomist Javier Puigros Planas, national secretary for agrarian and peasant affairs for the Popular Christian Party [PPC]. The terrorists raided his farm, which is just off the highway between Huaura and Sayan, burning buildings and killing cattle.

There were 16 people wounded in the confrontation; they were taken to nearby hospitals. A wake for Puigros will be held at the Santa Maria Chapel.

The police have carried out a dragnet operation in the zone to find the subversives, who fled toward the Ancash Mountains.

A new murder case has shocked the country today. A presumed Shining Path terrorist column brutally murdered Agronomist Javier Puigros, the leading fruit grower in the country, who graduated with President Alberto Fujimori. Puigros was the PPC national secretary for peasant and agrarian affairs.

The terrorist madness has been watching this agronomist for a long time. This morning, however, they raided his farm in lower Santa Teresa, in Huaura, murdered him, and killed all his cattle and poultry. They then dynamited and burned the farm installations, injuring 16 people. The injured have been taken to various hospitals.

Puigros, 49, was considered one of the country's outstanding agrarian experts, which made him a sure candidate for the post of agriculture minister in a possible democratic front government. He had been writing for the specialized magazine AGRONOTICIAS for six years and was a member of the magazine's consultative council. [passage omitted]

Powerful Bomb Thrown at Labor Ministry

PY2311234690 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] A powerful bomb was thrown on the Labor Ministry's basement access ramp this morning. The explosion broke windows in the building. At 0635 this morning, unidentified individuals, riding a vehicle, hurled a powerful bomb that fell onto the Labor Ministry's basement access ramp on Pablo Bermudez Street and Salaverry Avenue. The explosion broke a large quantity of windows in the front of the building. At this time, national police personnel are combing the area around the building in case there are other bombs.